

Hafa Adai!

What is your opinion on SC decision that gay marriage is a constitutional right? » **PAGE 2**

Public hearing set for clean up of Chiget mortar range. » **PAGE 6**

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75¢

Consultant: Draft EIS 'woefully inadequate'

By **JOEL PINAROC**
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Based on initial findings, the draft environmental impact statement for proposed joint military training and "live-fire" exercises in the CNMI is "woefully inadequate."



Yost

This is according to Nicholas Yost, who heads Dentons US LLC, the independent consultant hired by the CNMI government to review the military EIS.

Yost, who was on Capital Hill last Friday with other representatives of Dentons and Environmental Science Associates, said their initial review also showed that the documents do not con-

form with the "basic principles of the National Environmental Policy Act or NEPA" and that the documents "precludes intelligent review."

Yost said the Navy has alternatives and that there are other places, which would be more appropriate.

Dentons has started work on the draft EIS, although it has

See EIS on Page 4

Inos to initiate consultations with AG, mayors on same-sex ruling

By **JOEL PINAROC**
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres will consult with the Attorney General and CNMI mayors "to see how we can initiate the necessary changes to current regulations to comply with the ruling and ensure an equal application of our con-

stitutional rights throughout the CNMI."

Inos was referring to a U.S. Supreme Court decision to allow same sex marriage on Friday. The SC issued its historic ruling through a 5-4 vote that legalized same sex marriage across the 50 states and the Insular Areas such as the CNMI.

See INOS on Page 4



Ada acquitted of conspiracy to commit money laundering

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A federal jury reached a verdict on Friday, acquitting Leyda I. Ada of the charges of conspiracy to commit money laundering and money laundering, but finding her guilty as to the crime of perjury.

» **But jurors found defendant guilty of perjury**

Ada remained calm when a court staff read the verdict at 11:09am. When she emerged



Ada

from the courtroom after the hearing, Ada, however, was seen wiping her tears. Her parents and family members followed her as she entered her vehicle.

U.S. District Court for the

See ADA on Page 4

QUALITY PRODUCE

Various fruits and vegetables were displayed for competition at the 32nd Saipan and Northern Islands Agricultural Fair last Saturday in Susupe. The exhibit showed the quality of the produce that farmers in the island cultivate.

See story on Page 4

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

INSIDE



LOCAL

Saipan lass Andrea Martina Boddallo Hofschneider is one of Saipan's few Certified Public Accountants.

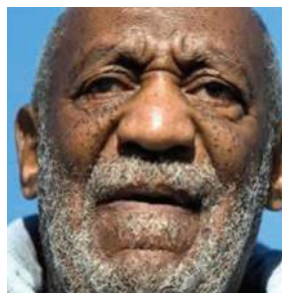
» **PAGE 14**



NATION

On Friday night, the White House was illuminated with rainbow colors in celebration of the Supreme Court ruling legalizing such marriages in every state of the nation.

» **PAGE 17**



LIFE & STYLE

A lawyer for Bill Cosby argued Friday that it would be "terribly embarrassing" for the comedian if documents from a 2005 sex-assault lawsuit were unsealed.

» **PAGE 21**



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Local

MAN ON THE STREET

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Topic: What is your opinion on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that gay marriage is a constitutional right?



I think it's okay. I'm really open to diversity. I like that everyone's given the right, not just the regular lady and man. If it's girl and girl, boy and boy, whatever, if they wish to do it then why not. If that's what their heart tells them, I think, you know we should agree with it and not go against it.

Becky Mattao



I do identify as a lesbian, so when I woke up [with the news] I was really happy. I'm really proud. I think it's really an important step in equality but I don't think it's a final step. I think there are a lot of things that we can do before it's actually equal in the U.S.

Heidi Lochen



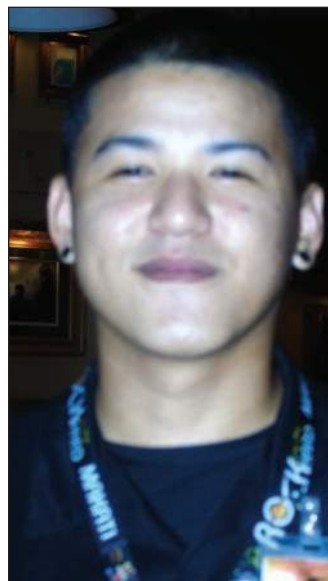
I don't like it. But legally we have no choice now. I'm an old fashioned guy. I believe in man and woman joining for matrimony. Not man and man or girl and girl.

JM Guerrero



Finally. I'm glad the decision was made. It was the right decision and it should've been made a long time ago. It never should've been an issue. The separation of church and state deems marriage by the state as a legal agreement between two people and shouldn't matter what your sex is.

Mike Ronesia



I do support gay marriage because I believe, we're all the same and love has no gender.

Russ Hocog

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They're making the world diverse, it's great. Everyone is equal. People that like the same people are, I guess, the same as the heterosexual people. It shouldn't be unbalanced, it should be equal.

Robert Suzuki, Jr.



I agree totally, it was a long time coming. It's a good thing.

Tammy James

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Tourism
Topics

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 Advertisement**

To enhance awareness in Korea of the
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destination, the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** recently developed advertising in **Travel Leisure** newspaper and **CEO** business magazine.

Travel Leisure magazine is a travel trade newspaper with a circulation of 15,000. CEO is a business magazine with a circulation of 100,000. The advertisement included signature photos of the Northern Marianas and brief information about Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Based on the latest visitor arrival statistics, arrivals from Korea catapulted 79 percent in May to 16,237 visitors. **Jeju Air** launched an additional daily flight to Saipan from Incheon

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I'm happy not because I'm gay but because we're getting equality. We don't want to be special but we want to be equal with everybody. We're also human beings, right? We're happy that somehow, they've recognizing it now.

Mikka Valencia



It's all about love. As long as they're good citizens, nothing wrong about that gay marriage. I support it all the way.

Jeff Mendoza



I think the government really shouldn't have a say on who marries who or why. So I support it.

Sarah Fryling



I think that it's about time that they finally let people them be with who they want to be with. Gay marriage is all about equality. That's just what it is. I'm proud to say that love wins all the time, you can't stop that, it always prevails.

Nikko Deleon Guerrero

I'm against it. That's not God's will. God's will is for a man and a woman to be together that they may multiply. I'm against the gay marriage; it's not the people that I'm against. It's their choices.

Anamaria Tuigamala

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Casino opening date 'moving target,' as BSI continues hiring

The opening date for the casino at the DFS in Garapan will be a "moving target" as Best Sunshine International, Ltd., continues to hire.

According to Mark Brown, CEO of BSI, the company has about 150 employees.

"In terms of number of employees, we're pushing 150 employees right now locally in our building," Brown said, adding that the firm is "outgrowing our building, and every Monday

it seems there are 30 or 40 more people are coming in."

He said more and more are now being convinced to take the training offered by BSI and get paid for it.

On the opening of the Garapan casino, Brown said the date is a "moving target."

He said BSI has already hired a local firm to handle visa processing as well as someone to take care of purchasing requirements for the company.

He said things may not move as fast as they (BSI) would want to.

"It is not quick enough for us, obviously, but it is the 'norm' on the island, so we are right on track," Brown said.

Aside from the Garapan casino, BSI is also set to hire personnel for the Grand Mariana, a hotel casino also in Garapan.

Overall, the company expects more than 2,000 employees for the hotel casino.

The Commonwealth Casino Commission is also keenly following the opening of the casino and is aware of the schedule.

Commonwealth Casino Commission chair Juan Sablan, in a public meeting said, the commission was informed that the opening of the Garapan temporary casino is set "sometime in August."

An online report from World Casino News (<http://news.world-casinodirectory.com/head-hunter-targets-unemployed-atlantic-city-casino-workers-9129>) on Friday, meanwhile, said a headhunter based in the U.S. mainland has been contacted by BSI to hire unemployed casino workers in Atlantic City.

The report quoted Renard International Hospitality Search Consultants as saying that there is even a "special sign up bonus" to any casino worker who will join BSI before July 10.

The headhunter also said an attractive remuneration awaits employees, including free travel, health insurance, one free meal during working hours, and also free accommodation.

The report said New Jersey's gambling industry went through economic difficulties last year and gambling revenue from Atlantic City's casinos significantly declined.

The report further said some Atlantic City casinos were forced to shutdown operations in 2014 as a declining market meant that these casinos were unable to generate sufficient revenues, leaving thousands of workers unemployed.

It is estimated that some 8,000 casino workers in Atlantic City are now unemployed, the report said. **(Joel D. Pinaroc)**

Community comes together to celebrate Agricultural Fair

Plants and farm animals in the island were once again put to the spotlight as the community gathered to celebrate the 32nd Saipan and Northern Islands Agricultural Fair at the Civic Center in Susupe last Saturday.

The theme for this year's event is "Farmers and ranchers bring life to our islands" in recognition of their hard work to bring the fruits of their labor for the community.

Various produce like mountain apples, avocados, cassavas, gourds, and leafy vegetables were on display inside the 4H Building, showing the quality of farming in the island. A section for youth division also displayed the produce of the

younger farmers.

In the open, the best of swine, cattle, goats and poultry were displayed.

According to Saipan and Northern Islands Fair Association president Michael Ogo, around 90 categories were competed for in the plant division and about 20 categories for the animal division.

Judging started as early as 6am and ribbons were placed on winning entries but according to Ogo, awarding will be on July 11.

Meanwhile, two competitions like the CREES Agro-fashion show and Junior Chef Cooking Competition did not push through because of the lack of

participants.

Aside from the exhibits, a mini petting zoo with a kid (baby goat), piglets, and bunnies was also set up for children to play and interact with. Tents for food vendors and farmers to sell their produce as well as plants of different kinds were also present.

"We have more activities and we have more people," Ogo said.

Various agencies also had booths like the Department of Public Safety and the U.S. Department of Agriculture from Guam to promote various programs to the community.

"That's the whole purpose of having an Ag Fair. To have ser-

vice agencies, have the community, and have the farmers and ranchers come into one venue, meet and get to know each other and the whole goal is basically to improve agriculture in the CNMI," Ogo said.

Sponsors for this year's event are Ace Hardware, Bank of Guam, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Bridge Capital, LLC, DFS T-Galeria, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Public Safety, Hula Girl, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Luta Agricultural Fair Association, NMC-CREES, Saipan Sabalu Farmers Market, Inc., Saipan Plant Center, and Saipan Shipping. **(Frauleine S. Villanueva)**

Host families still needed for KSKK Japan students

The Saipan Mayor's Office is still looking for host families for students coming from Japan this July and in the upcoming months.

Nine students from Tokyo's International Youth Association of Japan Kokusai Seishonen Kenshu Kyokai group will be arriving on July 28 and will need families willing to host them.

Saipan Mayor's Office executive assistant Yuki Kishimoto said they will be conduct-

ing outdoor activities for the KSKK group during their visit to Saipan.

The students will arrive July 28 and will leave Aug. 4.

The nine students include six boys and three girls and are escorted by one chaperone.

According to the KSKK website, the homestay program allows Japanese students to interact with different cultures and enhance their knowledge of the cultures of the place they are visiting.

According to the website, 90 percent of their students traveling overseas for homestay programs are either first-time travelers or can hardly speak English.

The KSKK was founded in 1973 and has contributed to the promotion of friendly exchanges between countries.

There will be other schools from Japan visiting the CNMI and will need home stay.

On Aug. 5 to 11 Sanpoen students will be arriving, ECC Eng-

lish School students will arrive on Aug. 17 to 21, and Johoku High School will arrive on Oct. 27 to 30. KSKK will have a trip for CNMI students interested in homestay in Japan on Nov. 12 to 17, and while KSKK students will arrive once again for homestay in Saipan from Dec. 24 to 30.

For more details, interested families can pick up homestay applications at the Saipan Mayor's Office at the Ladera Center on Beach Road or call Kishimoto at 234-6208, 234-6280, and 235-7304. **(Jayson Camacho)**

INOS

From Page 1

"The union between two individuals regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, etc. through the ceremony of marriage is a celebration of unconditional love

and enduring commitment," Inos said in a statement, adding that, "while we acknowledge this historical ruling, we must remember that what is most important in our community is that we express love, compassion, and tolerance toward one another.

Inos said, "same sex common law unions have been in existence in our culture even before this ruling. In our small community, we either have family, friends, or know of people who are gay or lesbian couples."

"Let us continue to practice Our Lord Jesus' teaching, 'to

love one another as I have loved you,'" he said.

He said he and Torres and will be "reaching out next week to the Attorney General and the four honorable mayors to see how we can initiate the necessary changes to current regulations to comply with the ruling."

EIS

From Page 1

already conducted an initial review even before it was officially hired by the CNMI government.

As the independent consultant, Dentons is expected to deliver an executive summary, and give legal advice to the CNMI government on the draft EIS.

Jim Keany, a senior program manager at ESA, which is the partner firm of Dentons on the EIS review, added that the draft EIS is "too huge" and one of the goals is to "distill it down" for the public to understand.

Related to this, Keany said

Dentons and ESA plan to conduct public hearings on the draft EIS which will hopefully provide "clarity."

He said the public hearings will focus on "pointing out issues" on the draft EIS, unlike the military-led hearings which seem to be too "clouded" and "too confusing" on environmental issues.

Yost added that U.S. military conducted the hearings simply because it is a basic requirement by the NEPA. The hearings were also simply not enough, and only serve the purpose of the military to relay what it wants to relay.

This is the main difference between the military-led hear-

ing and what Dentons wants to do, he said.

What the new hearings hope to accomplish is to inform the CNMI departments and public on what the real issues and in the process generate more informed comments.

Keany also said the military "was not too responsive to the public comments."

A series of public hearings scheduled on July 15, 16, and 17, will be conducted by Dentons and the CNMI government.

Dentons was chosen as consultant for the draft EIS review about two weeks ago. The contract for the review was worth \$235,000 and is federally funded.

ADA

From Page 1

NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set the sentencing hearing for Nov. 13, 2015 at 9am.

Perjury has a maximum prison term of five years, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

The conspiracy and money laundering charges, to which Ada were found not guilty, each carry a maximum prison term of 20 years.

Manglona granted defense attorney Mark Hanson's request to allow Ada's continued release until the sentencing date. Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe, as counsel for the U.S. government, did not object to the continued release.

Hanson and Ada refused to comment to the media. The jury foreperson also refused to comment. It is not clear yet whether the prosecution will issue a press statement.

The 12 jurors find Ada guilty of perjury when she signed "no" to the question in a form if she has any cash on hand or money in savings or checking accounts.

In order to determine whether Ada could afford her own lawyer when she was arrested, she was required by the court to truthfully complete a financial affidavit.

In the paragraph entitled "Employment," Ada also checked the "no" box indicating that she was not employed.

According to the indictment, Ada's statements were false because she knew that she had \$4,000 in cash at the time in her personal clothing drawer at her house and had access to and was an authorized user of at least two bank accounts at First Hawaiian Bank.

With respect to the conspiracy to commit money laundering, the indictment alleged that immediately after Ada's husband, Melvin, stopped reporting to work at the Commonwealth Health Center on July 5, 2011, he and Ada, assisted by others, conducted a series of financial transactions to deal the proceeds derived from health care fraud and embezzlement.

Between July 5, 2011 and Aug. 11, 2011, the Ada couple allegedly closed out six bank

accounts at First Hawaiian Bank, Bank of Guam, and Bank Pacific, but not before withdrawing and spending at least \$75,000 in funds.

On Aug. 1, 2011, Melvin transferred and attempted to transfer title in four vehicles one to Ada and three to her immediate relatives, all for no consideration.

On Aug. 10, 2011, Melvin transferred his business licenses to Island Trendz and Blaze N Entertainment to Ada, who, in turn, transferred the licenses to a corporation controlled by her immediate relatives on Sept. 1, 2011.

On money laundering, Ada allegedly withdrew \$17,334.61 from her personal savings account, which she knew to have been procured by health care theft and embezzlement.

The jurors began their deliberations on Wednesday afternoon.

In the U.S. government's closing arguments, Backe said the key issue in this case is Ada's knowledge in her husband Melvin's scheme to perpetrate healthcare fraud exceeding \$1.7 million.

In Ada's closing arguments, Hanson said in this case, since Ada is the wife of Melvin, she got to be guilty.

Hanson said no person, even Ada, knew that Melvin was stealing close to \$2 million from Finance, through the Commonwealth Health Center.

The prosecution called a total of 31 witnesses in the trial that began last June 1. The defense called three witnesses.

The Ada couple invoked their right to remain silent and not to testify in court.

Ada used to be a sales representative for Midwest Medical Supply Co. Inc., a Missouri-based company that had supplied dialysis consumables and equipment to CHC.

The original indictment charged the Ada couple with 59 counts.

Melvin is a former employee of the Commonwealth Health Center. He pleaded guilty to 56 charges for misappropriating and diverting CNMI Treasury checks made payable to a medical supplier company totaling over \$1.7 million. His sentencing will be on Aug. 21, 2015 at 10:30am.

Former judge Lizama appeals breach of contract ruling

Former Superior Court associate judge Juan T. Lizama is appealing Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho's decision finding him to have breached a contract by failing to pay for dental work he ordered performed on his brother in 2012.

Lizama filed a one-page notice of appeal, informing the Superior Court that an appeal is taken to the Supreme Court.

Lizama seeks the high court's reversal of Camacho's ruling issued on May 28, 2015.

No other information was provided in the notice.

In his May 28 decision, Camacho found Lizama liable to pay Dr. Allan Stuart Markoff, who owns Toothworks,

\$5,381 on the principal plus \$1,123.82 in pre-judgment interest or for a total award of \$6,504.82.

Camacho ruled that there was a valid contract between the parties regarding dental work on Lizama's brother, Antonio.

The judge said Lizama failed to make the required payments for Antonio's dental work.

Camacho said Lizama promised to pay for Antonio's dental care, that the dental work was performed, and that Lizama failed to make full payments, thus breaching the agreement that he made with Markoff.

"The court finds that defendant Lizama's testimony lacks credibility, especially because of defendant Lizama's circular and evasive answers to questions while on the witness stand," Camacho said.

Markoff sued Lizama for allegedly failing to pay for dental services rendered on his brother. The dentist claimed that the defendant owes him and the clinic \$5,381. He alleged that the former judge refused to make payments beyond a single \$1,000 payment.

The bench trial was held on Dec. 30, 2014. Attorney Michael A. White represented Markoff. Lizama represented himself. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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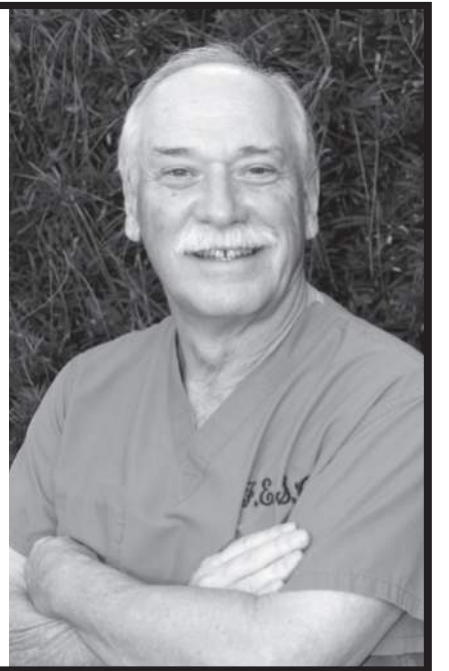
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Public hearing set for clean up of Chiget mortar range

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marine Forces Pacific has set a public hearing on Tinian this July 15 for the clean up of the old Chiget Mortar Range, a military “scar” left closed and fenced off on the island for decades.

MARFORPAC executive director Craig Whelden told *Saipan Tribune* that they recognize the clean up as an “important issue” for Tinian and

the CNMI, one that, he said, they would explore ways to accelerate. However, Tinian historian Don Farrell, chief of staff of the previous Tinian mayor, Ramon Dela Cruz, separately said the request for a clean up was brought to the military almost five years ago.

“That has not happened, nor do we believe it will ever happen,” Farrell told *Saipan Tribune* in an email.

The July hearing will come more than two months after a

public hearing on Tinian for the U.S. military’s proposed live-fire range complexes there.

The military’s proposal for a “high impact area”—as part of their four proposed range complexes on the island—has drawn concern from Tinian officials and people, who point to the old Chiget range as an example of what an “high-impact” area means for their island.

Whelden assures, though, that the Department of De-

fense has an “obligation to fix” the old mortar range. “As Mayor San Nicholas will attest, when [U.S. Department of Defense Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans and Capabilities Robert M.] Scher visited Tinian last week, our tour of the island was time-constrained because of a scheduled meeting with the Governor. Given the option of visiting the atomic bomb pit or Chiget—I elected to take Secretary Scher to Chiget because of the importance we place on this issue,” Whelden said in an email last week.

“I will do the same with Lt-Gen [Anthony G.] Crutchfield next week to ensure senior leaders in the DoD understand the scar Chiget is on Tinian and our obligation to fix it,” he said.

The public hearing on the Chiget range clean up is set at 4:30pm at the Tinian Public Library.

The Chiget Mortar Range has been closed for 21 years. The old military site sits right near a tourist attraction, a popular Tinian blowhole.

According to Whelden, military studies were completed on this site in 1997 and 2007. However, he explained that work under the military’s “Munitions Response Program” could not fully proceed until the planning efforts for

the U.S. Marine Corps’ Relocation in Guam confirmed that Tinian would not be used as part of these plans.

According to Whelden, they started the MRP process last year. “We have been exploring options in recent months to accelerate the clean-up,” he said.

A site survey was completed in April 2015, he said. These survey findings will be presented at the public hearing.

“While we will follow the MRP remediation protocols, we will also continue to explore in parallel ways to accelerate the clean up,” Whelden said.

For Farrell, though, it is a “shame” that the issue this only coming to the fore today. “Some five years ago, when [former] Mayor Dela Cruz first reviewed the [Joint Guam Program Office] plan for rifle ranges on Tinian, he requested the cleanup of the Chiget mortar range. That has not happened, nor do we believe it will ever happen,” he said.

According to Farrell, two years after JGPO [plans for Guam relocation] failed to receive Congressional funding, Whelden appeared before the now-dissolved Military Integration Management Committee, and announced the new [CNMI Joint Mili-

tary Training] plan, which included an artillery range on Tinian.

“Mayor Dela Cruz immediately requested a visit to an active Marine Corps live fire range. Mr. Whelden quickly made the arrangements and Mayor Dela Cruz visited an artillery range in Hawai’i. When the Mayor returned he wrote to Mr. Whelden personally, with a copy to Governor Inos, stating that although he would work with MarForPac on the other range issues incorporated in the Tinian lay down plan, he opposed the artillery range,” he said.

“It was our position then, and remains our position, that an artillery range will create a “duded impact area” that cannot be cleaned up, just as the Chiget mortar range cannot be cleaned up, and would thus violate the terms and spirit of the original Tinian land lease agreement,” he said.

He noted, though, that while some of the military’s artillery and bombing ranges have created duded impact areas that cannot be cleaned up, the military has “an exemplary record of maintaining their [federal law]-mandated programmatic agreements on historic properties and agreements on the protection of endangered and threatened species.”

Regulators will impose additional \$3M license fee for Best Sunshine

By JOEL PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission will impose an additional \$3 million in license fees from Best Sunshine International, Ltd. starting fiscal year 2016.

The commission held a meeting Friday and voted on the additional license fee after making a determination that it would need the necessary funding to continue its regulatory work.

Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said the commissioners agreed to update its casino reg-

ulations, and one major update is the inclusion of the yearly \$3 million “flat” fee.

Currently, the casino commission imposes separate license fees for casino employees, gaming tables, gaming machines, and others, from the exclusive casino license holder.

But come Oct. 1, when all of the licenses issued have expired, the commission will impose the “flat” \$3 million fee, which will replace the other individual fees.

The CNMI government follows a fiscal year that ends September 30, 2015.

“This (\$3 million) is a licensing and regulatory fee,”

Deleon Guerrero stressed, adding that the commission has identified this amount as “what we need in order for us to regulate the industry.”

Deleon Guerrero also said BSI has agreed to pay the flat fee but has requested that it pays the amount in two installments.

“The commission agreed that the casino licensee will pay half the amount on Oct. 1, and pay the other half after six months,” Deleon Guerrero said.

He said the commission earlier corresponded with BSI CEO Mark Brown regarding the license fees.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS Statewide Independent Living Council “Yes I Can!”

P.O. Box 501521, SAIPAN, MP 96950 • Tel: (670) 322-6537/8 • Fax: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449 • E-Mail: nmidir@ovrgov.net



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2015 Third General Membership Meeting on Thursday, July 09, 2015 at the Bayview Hotel, Rota from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of FY 2015 Second General Membership Meeting Minutes of 5/21/15
- V. Reports
 - a. SILC Chairperson
 - b. CLI Executive Director
 - c. OVR Director
- VI. Old Business
 - a. SILC Member Removal
 - b. Designated State Entity of Independent Living
 - c. Independent Living Service Contract
- VII. New Business
 - a. SILC Member recommendation for Rota and replacement of expiring members
 - b. SILC Representative for SRC
- VIII. Consumer Forum
- IX. Announcements/Miscellaneous
- X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters are asked to call Ms. Elvira Seman (OVR Administrative Assistant) at 322-6537-38 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) five days before the meeting for necessary arrangements.

/s/ Gernadine DLC. Camacho
SILC Chairperson

Publication of this notice is paid for by Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands State Rehabilitation Council

P.O. Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 322-6537 • Fax: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449 • E-Mail: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 2015 Second General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, July 08, 2015 at the Charley’s Cabaret, Pacific Islands Club from 9:00 am - 12:00 p.m. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of FY 2015 First General Membership Meeting Minutes of 2/18/15
- V. Reports
 - a. SRC Chairperson
 - b. Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee Chairperson
 - c. Employment and Marketing Committee Chairperson
 - d. Transition and Assistive Technology Committee Chairperson
 - e. Transportation, Housing, and Advocacy Committee Chairperson
 - f. OVR Director
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Update on WIOA Training/Technical Assistance
 - b. Update on Mental Health First Aid Training
 - c. Update on Resource Directory
 - d. Update on Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
- VII. New Business
 - a. NMHC Presentation
 - b. Presentation by QA/QI Committee Chairperson
 - c. New Member Orientation
 - d. Proposed Transition Initiative
 - e. NDEAM Planning/Collaboration
- VIII. Consumer Forum
- IX. Announcements/Miscellaneous
- X. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call Elvira Seman at 322-6537/38 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) five days before the meeting.

/s/ PAMELA C. SABLAN
Chairperson

This advertisement is paid for with Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

LibDay festivities kick off tomorrow

Liberation Day festivities—a tradition tracing itself back when the gates of Camp Susupe were opened at the end of World War II—will be celebrating its 70th year and organizers are inviting the community to attend tomorrow night's kickoff ceremony at Garapan Fishing Base.

Despite postponing its initial opening last Saturday, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang is inviting the community to join the start of the celebration, which he expects to be the finest and most exciting in years.

Skywalker Communications Group public relations manager Kiki Chen said that the 2015 Liberation Day committee has been working really hard and preparing for the event.

This year's celebration is expected to have fireworks, the Liberation Queen coronation, parade, more than 10 carni-

val rides, food and drinks, entertainment, prizes, and other wholesome activities.

Unfortunately, Chen said the rides from China will be arriving in mid-July.

"This is something new for the CNMI. With how Skywalker Communications is committed to give the best possible exposure to our islands in the international arena by tapping different platforms and its creative staging and production of our annual festivities, this perfectly fits our purpose and tradition," said Apatang.

"This is free marketing and promotion for the islands at no cost to the CNMI government. I am in high spirits that we will be able to reach more markets through the organization's planning and staging," he added.

The parade is set for July 4 with participants expected to be on site by 7am, while the pa-

rade kicks off at Quartermaster around 9am. It will go toward the carnival grounds at the Garapan Fishing Base.

The prizes for the float competition are \$4,000 for first place; \$3,000 for second; \$2,000 for third; and \$1,000 for fourth—the largest it has been in recent years.

Volunteers are also welcome to apply including students from high school looking to include volunteer hours to their school requirements. The theme for this year is "Peace in Diversity." The biggest prize for this year's raffle ticket is \$10,000.

The 2015 Liberation Day Carnival grounds will be from June 30 to Aug. 16 and will run 6pm-10pm Mondays to Thursdays, 6pm-11pm on Fridays, 10am to 11pm on Saturdays and 10am to 10pm on Sundays. *(Jayson Camacho)*

Attention, Honda & Acura Drivers.

Please be aware that, we have a National Safety Improvement Campaign and recall under way to repair airbag inflators at no cost to you, in certain Honda and Acura vehicles (listed below). To see if your vehicle needs immediate attention, please check its recall status by taking one of the following steps:

GO to recalls.honda.com for Honda drivers, or recalls.acura.com for Acura drivers.

CALL 1-800-999-1009 and choose option 4 for Honda drivers, or **1-800-382-2238** and choose option 4 for Acura drivers. Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM Pacific Standard Time.

VISIT Joeten Motors, the authorized Honda dealer in **Saipan** to have it serviced. Or call us at (670) 234-5562.

Honda is committed to addressing your needs and concerns. We will provide a free-of-charge rental car or loaner vehicle if there is a delay while getting your car repaired.

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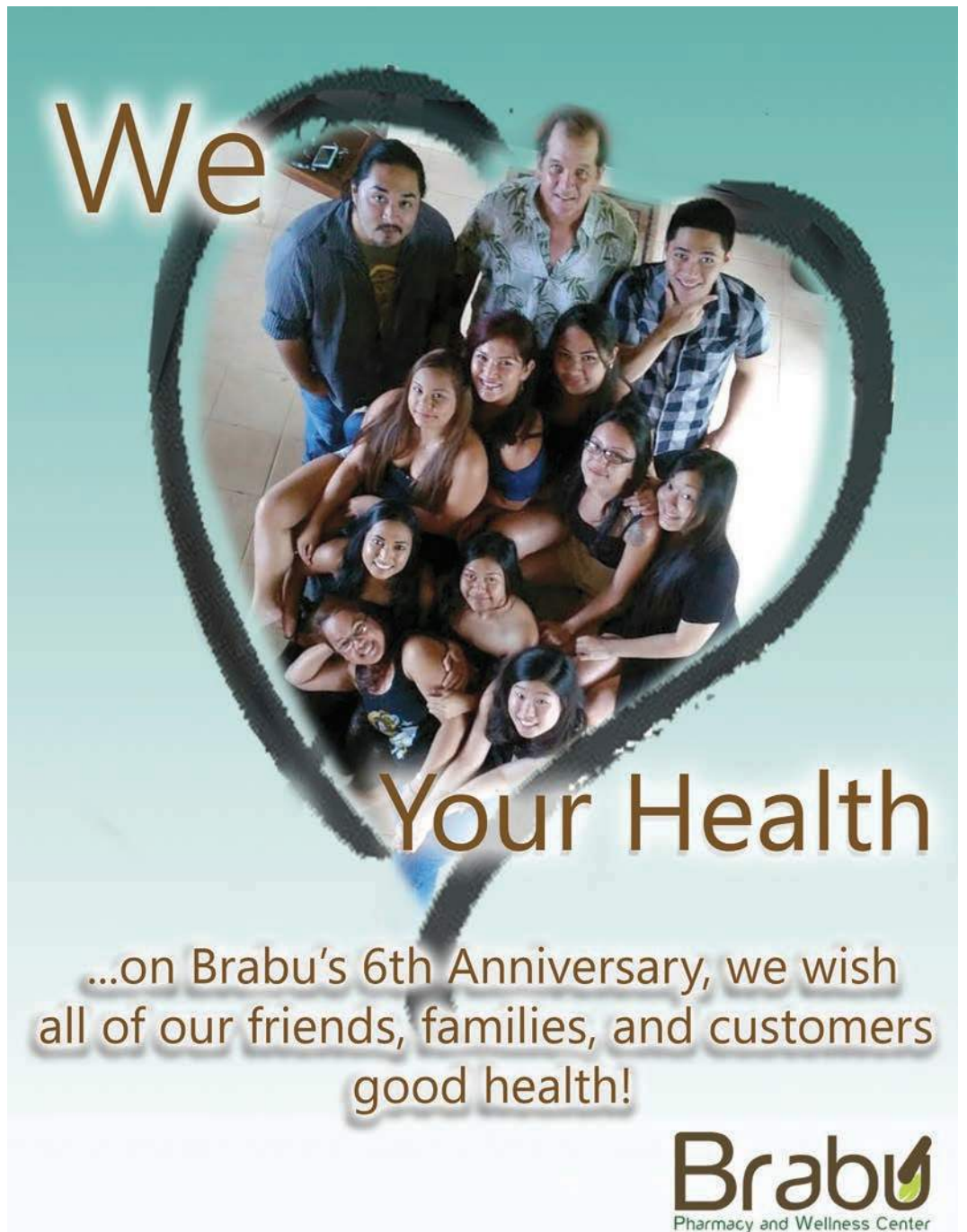
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MARIANAS BAPTIST ACADEMY OPEN ENROLMENT

Marianas Baptist Academy is currently accepting applications for the School Year 2015-2016. MBA is a co-educational, Christian, college preparatory, secondary school. MBA has been serving the NMI since 1984.

MBA OFFERS:

- 7th – 12th grade classes
- 5th and 6th grade classes (now in its third year)
- Small class sizes with an average of fifteen to eighteen students per classroom
- High-academic standard and benchmark with Bible-based Curriculum (A-Beka and Bob Jones)
- Honor Courses and AP College Courses (Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, English Language & Composition, English Literature, US History, World History, Comparative Government & Politics, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Physics, Psychology, and Japanese)
- An international student body that excels in academics and sports
- Well-experienced, dedicated qualified teachers and staff
- Opportunities for students to improve academically, socially, spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Students participate in Mock Trial, Mathcourt, AMC, NJSDA, NSDA, Academic Bee, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, AG Cup, Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Red Cross, etc.
- Higher scores in SAT I and II for Math, Critical Reading, and Advance Placement Tests
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Secure your slot by taking the entrance test. Hurry! Limited slots available

Contact: Phone/Fax: (670) 234-6508 (Mon. to Fri.)
Website: mbacademy.wix.com/m-b-a
E-mail: r_h_trinidad@hotmail.com
Located at Dandan across Shell Gas Station

Here are some of the Colleges and Universities MBA students have attended:
Harvard, Princeton, Vanderbilt, Stanford, Duke, Emory, US Naval Academy, US Air Force Academy, Georgetown, US Berkeley, University of San Francisco, Dartmouth, New York University, University of Michigan, Brown, Wellesley, KAIST (all full scholars), Seoul national University, Yonsei University, POSTECH, and many others. . .

5th Operation Deviant Guard checks 55 sex offenders

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The United States Marshals Service District of Guam and NMI, in collaboration with the Department of Public Safety Sex Offender Registry and other local and federal agencies, successfully located and verified for compliance checks 55 registered sex offenders on Saipan during their fifth “Operation Deviant Guard,” a three-day compliance check targeting sex offenders.

In a news briefing on Friday at the CNMI Judiciary’s conference room, Police officer Jason T. Tarkong, who is in charge of DPS Sex Offender Unit, said of the 55 targeted registered sex offenders, 22 were recently convicted and are incarcerated at the Department of Corrections.

Tarkong said the registration of 22 recently convicted sex offenders include taking of their photos, fingerprints, and DNA collection.

The U.S. Marshal Service Task Force served a warrant on Frank Basa, for violating his federal probation terms and conditions.

At the same time during Basa’s arrest, the U.S. Marshal Service Task Force also registered and verified his brother, Melvin Basa.

The U.S. Marshal Service Task Force also assisted the

U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement on the arrest of Alisa T. Curley, an alien who was convicted of felony theft of property in Guam 2013 but fled Guam while on supervision.

Curley was arrested for an alien being subject to removal from the U.S. based on her criminal conviction.

Registered sex offender Vicente Kaipat was arrested on an active bench warrant.

Tarkong said one convicted sex offender passed away and one sex offender was added to the compliance check.

The other agencies that participated in the operation were the CNMI Office of Parole, CNMI Office of Adult Probation, CNMI and Guam Department of Corrections, Guam Police Department, Judiciary of Guam Marshals Division, and the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Tarkong also disclosed that last March, the U.S. Marshals Service and the CNMI Sex Offenders Task Force Unit conducted a registered sex offenders verification and training operation on Rota.

Tarkong said the team trained Rota and Tinian police officers on how to register sex offenders to include DNA swabbing.

As a result, six registered sex offenders on Rota and 12 on Tinian were updated and verified.

“The efforts of these dedicated law enforcement professionals were instrumental in the successful execution of Operation Deviant Guard,” Tarkong said.

This initiative, Tarkong said, is the fifth of similar operations conducted in the past and planned for the future, “in an effort to protect and safeguard the community, most especially the children.”

Joseph J. Remigio, chief inspector for U.S. Marshals, said it was a very successful operation as the cooperation and teamwork was excellent.

Remigio said it is a good thing when each agency gets together because it brings fluidity with the operation.

Remigio is basically the chief inspector for the sex offender investigative branch in the Marshal Service. His area of responsibility is the whole California, Nevada, Hawaii, the CNMI, and Guam.

“Once they do conduct operation in each district so whichever region it is, I go and participate in the operation to ensure that everything is being taken care of,” Remigio said.

It’s Remigio’s second time to visit the CNMI. The first time was when they were trying to incorporate the national sex offender registry in 2009.

“I went here with some of the U.S. attorneys to try to see how we can help and make the transi-

sition a lot better,” he said.

John Untalan, senior inspector for the U.S. Marshals Service Districts of Guam/NMI, said without the cooperation of the managers of various agencies and all participants, the operation will not be as successful as it has been.

Untalan said in Guam, there are over 500 registered sex offenders and 400 of them are ac-

tually out on the streets that they actually have been monitoring.

Untalan said they recently conducted the same operation in Guam before proceeding to Saipan.

DPS police director Pete Leon Guerrero said “Deviant Guard” is keeping the community safe by watching these sex offenders and showing that the officers are vigilant in doing this

compliance check.

“We have to take these guys on check,” Leon Guerrero pointed out.

In July 2011, the first Deviant Guard operation on Saipan targeted 50 registered sex offenders, located and verified 40 offenders, arrested five for non-compliance, and confiscated \$7,000 worth of marijuana plants.

‘Temporary’ return of Thursday Market at PDM in the works

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Thursday Street Market has not been operating for two weeks now and it is not yet clear when it will be reopening back to its original venue at the Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.

The weekly street market was last held at the Garapan Fishing Base on June 11 but was temporarily discontinued as preparations are underway for the Liberation Day festivities that will be held at the same spot.

According to Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture executive director Angel Hocog, he will start meeting with and submitting requirements to the Department of Public Lands this week to acquire a temporary permit to operate at the Paseo.

“Hopefully I can get a tempo-

rary permit once I submit all the requirements for Public Lands,” Hocog told *Saipan Tribune*.

Asked when he thinks the market will reopen, Hocog said “it’s up to Public Lands.”

Hocog said his office started gathering documents needed for the permit.

“I started notifying the vendors to submit their monthly business gross revenue tax because that’s part of the requirement,” Hocog said.

“My office is starting to get all the documents from our vendors. We’ll work on that and send to Public Lands,” he added.

Only temporary

Answering if the Paseo is a good place for the Thursday market, Hocog said “it’s not.”

“It’s not, but temporary, that’s the only venue that we have. It’s



not recommended that we move south,” Hocog said, “That’s the only option that we have, to move back to Paseo.”

Another concern is if all the vendors will fit to operate in Paseo. The weekly market currently has 62 vendors, food and non-food.

“I sent one of my staff to go out and start doing the measurements but otherwise we just have to take out those non-food [vendors]. But we’ll try to accommodate everyone,” Hocog said.

On the other hand, Hocog also pointed out that the location might be good for tourists to come as it is near hotels. He added that there will be no change in the fees paid by vendors.

Once it reopens, the Thursday Market will stay at Paseo until the Liberation Day celebrations end on August.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-15-017

WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to provide construction repair services for identified waterline leaks in the CUC water system. This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity contract will be awarded to multiple Contractors. The work will consist of excavation and leak repairs on various types of waterlines and appurtenances. Materials for leak repairs are to be provided by CUC. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year, contingent upon funding and if exercised by CUC.

This project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and CUC & the US Department of Interior -Bureau of Reclamation. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

*A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **June 23, 2015 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Training Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.*

Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division, by 3:00 p.m. (ChST) on June 26, 2015 in order to be considered.

One (1) Original Hard Copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC RFP-15-017, Waterline Repairs, Saipan, CNMI” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on July 14, 2015**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address cucprocurement@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission.

The deadline for proposal submittals is July 14, 2015, although this date may be subject to change. Changes to the proposal schedule will be distributed to all registered proponents by the CUC Procurement and Supply office.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.*

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proponents due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of proponents’ preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proponents.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.



CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor’s Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be considered only from registered proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 30, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Engineer, Water/Wastewater Division via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-15-018

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF POWER DISTRIBUTION ANNUAL MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified entities for the Supply and Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for “Commodity Groups”.

Prospective Bidders must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) Original Hard Copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-15-018, Supply & Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials, Saipan, CNMI” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on July 16, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. *A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address cucprocurement@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with the copy of the submission.*

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bid. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

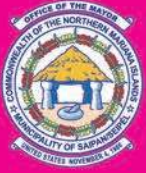
This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission’s (CPUC) and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director’s (BOD) approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 29, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email alfredo.palattao@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



2015 CNMI LIBERATION FESTIVITIES

добро пожаловать

Kumosta

Hafadai

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ようこそ

welcome

Tirow Wòòmi

2015.6.30 - 8.16

PEACE IN DIVERSITY

Liberate yourself this summer! Immerse yourself in the nightly sights, sounds, and tasty flavors of the 2015 Liberation Day Festival and win cool prizes. Come out on July 4th and see who will be the 2015 Ms. Liberation, which awesome float will bag the

\$4,000 dollar prize,

and who will bag the

\$10,000 dollar 2015 Liberation Day raffle prize!

Food, drinks, games, entertainment, and fabulous prizes, the 2015 Liberation Day Festival has it so come on down!

Event Sponsorship Levels & Benefits

The 2015 Liberation Day Committee produces Liberation Day Festival events that are available for sponsorship annually. These events consistently attract audiences composed of corporate executives, philanthropists, community leaders, families, and visitors. Each event offers sponsors excellent exposure and benefits, i.e.: branding, media placement and access to community leaders.

Support for the 2015 Liberation Day Celebration is a great way to give back to the CNMI community. It is recognized as an act of community involvement and social responsibility. Particularly for businesses headquartered outside of

CNMI, it is a great way to thank community for its continuing business in the CNMI.

Exclusive Title Sponsor = \$300,000

Title Sponsor = \$100,000

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2015 Liberation Day Festival



weibo 塞班-塞班

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

Obama's eulogy points us to a path of grace

The occasion, a funeral for a beloved man who was murdered, was tragic. The theme of grace that resonated throughout the eulogy delivered by President Barack Obama was anything but.

The service Friday for South Carolina state Sen. Clementa Pinckney, pastor of Emmanuel AME Church, was steeped in the traditions of the black church, themselves an underpinning of the black experience in America. The black experience in America also has at its root the kind of violence that Dylann Roof is alleged to have brought when he sat with nine people as they prayed, then shot them all to death, acting on a hatred of their race.

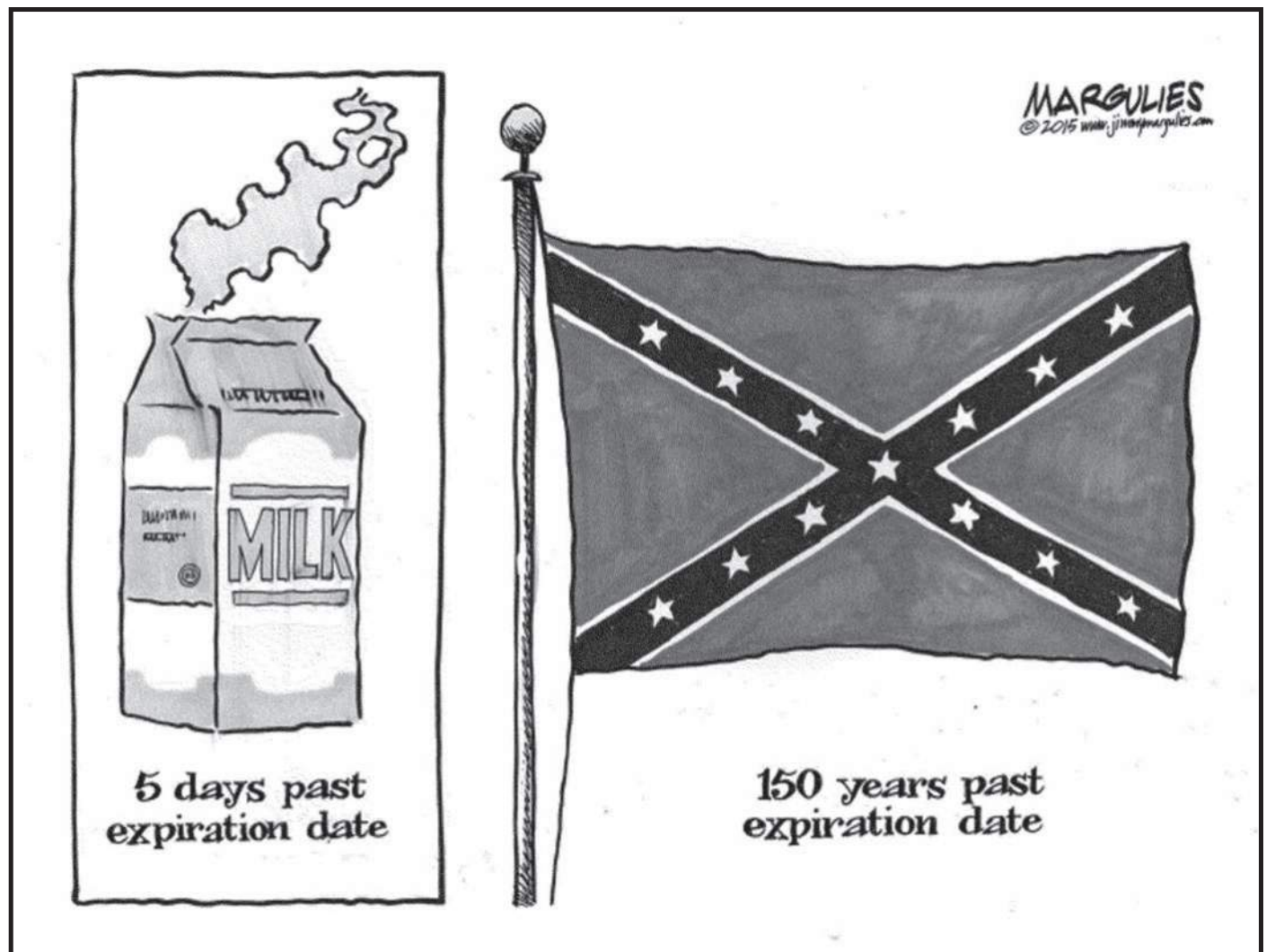
It would not be inaccurate to say the heart of the black experience in America lies in that church, where violence and faith intersected. Obama got at that with a preacher's cadence and vigor and a professor's precision of message. Roof sought dissension and a race war. What the killings brought instead, Obama reminded us, was grace: an opportunity to love each other, a banishment of the Confederate Flag, a symbol Roof esteemed as a message of hate. Grace as forgiveness from God, which none of us deserves as sinners, Obama reminded us. Grace for Roof from the victims' families, whose faith tells them they cannot hate the sinner no matter how grievous the sin. And grace granted to all of us through opportunities to walk away from hate, to disdain prejudice, to address a criminal justice system, an economic system and educational system that aren't always colorblind because the flawed people who decide whom to hire and whom to jail and whom to rent to aren't always color blind.

Obama talked about guns and violence and a culture that teaches too many young men to hate, all issues that get plenty of attention in the wake of tragedy but very little between the blips of violence seen in news reports.

In the end, the president led the crowd of about 5,000 in "Amazing Grace," a stirring moment that hopefully isn't the end. The light has been lit, the path is clear. In the wake of unthinkable violence and hate, this nation came together in love and with purpose.

We are one nation. We are one people. We share a common purpose. In the aftermath of tragedy, we have been granted the ability to see each other with love. We cannot squander this grace, to do so would mock Pinckney, those who died with him, mankind's nobility, and the God on whom so many in this nation rely.

(c)2015 Newsday



Christian Wei and Agape

Dear God's Elect, was the salutation of an email I received and immediately, I thought of Christian Wei and the Agape Christian School.

Christian Wei is not a misspelling although there is Christian Way Missions, the work Eucon president and Bob Jones U grad Christian Wei who came to our attention early part of this century. Most recently, his school name bears the water bottle delivered to my apartment through my local sari-sari store operator.

I also noticed numerous Eucon students walking up and down Middle Road near the school wearing their reflector vests even in midday but given local drivers' propensity to step on the gas on the stretch of road that comes closest to a drag strip on Saipan, the students' orderly and disciplined walk is necessary.

Close to the offices of NMPASI where I previously hung out and where some of my close colleagues work, is the Eucon Medical Center. Evidently, Christian and Judy Wei have spread their wings further since I last ran into their musically talented children at the Tinian Dynasty sometime in mid-2000.

Agape is the premium theological metaphor for "transcendent love" and it looks like the Pang family had gotten a school with that name up and running. Koh and Jimeian Pang were next door to Eucon when I first intruded into their territory.

I was on a flight from China with 10 Shanghai-recruited students to Saipan to pursue nursing studies in English at Eucon. At the time, I served with the NMC Nursing Advisory Board and I was familiar with the academic situation on Saipan. I sat with two of the students on the plane and I learned that they signed up for a two-year stint on the promise of a student visa.

Knowing at the time that there was no such "student visa," I kept my mouth shut, gave the students my name and phone number, and offered assistance if needed. I was the director of the Marianas Resource Center (MRC) at Oleai for the UMC. Short of three months down the line, I got a phone call. Shortly after, I secured visas and transferred three students out of the Eucon housing, two to the MRC and the other, an admirably self-reliant one, moved out on her own.

It was the tailend of 2001. Four of the student nurses wanted to segue into the NMC Nursing program (three eventually did, two finishing with honors); they sought assistance from the Pangs, erstwhile colleagues of the Weis at the start of their ministries, but parted ways for various reasons. Jimeian Pang accompanied three girls to our initial meeting.

Later, I accompanied one of the Chinese student nurses who moved out of Eucon to a Sunday worship service that the Rev. Kok Pang conducted for workers of the garment industry.

A word about the pair of religious glasses I wear. I am a self-defrocked clergy of the Methodist Church (2003) whose Philippine ordination was transferred to the California-Pacific Annual Confer-

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



ence (an Episcopal Diocese) that administers Saipan's Immanuel UMC where I brought my clerical collar.

My glasses were tinted for 20 years growing up in a Methodist parsonage, then at a Seminary in Kentucky that was too conservative in an out-of-the-way town, refusing to build the Inter-State highway in its neighborhood fearful that it might taint the place with "modernism." I lasted three semesters; learned of the word "evangelical" and its ecclesiastical meaning.

One of my classmates thought Kentucky was too liberal and transferred to Bob Jones University in Greenville, SC, Dr. Wei's alma mater. I went the other way to a liberal school in Dallas, Texas where my mind was sharpened, heart warmed, found a wife, finished a degree, and returned to my starry-eyed lark convinced that I was needed in the Philippines!

A secular monastic by temperament, and organizationally ecumenical, I am quite familiar with the traditions of our Taiwanese faithful Dr. Christian Wei and his Eucon, and the Pangs' Agape Christian School within the Bible-belt orientation.

Intimately familiar with the whole history of the Judeo-Christian journey from Sarah and Abraham of the Mesopotamian rivers to the scattered congregations that dot developing world's landscape as a consequence of the spirited missions that followed Uncle Sam's military around the world, in the same way as friars trekked with conquistadores of old to banish the pagans, and the entrepreneurs and the educators followed the steam engine in an accented world where the sun never sets on the British Empire.

Fast-forward to 2015 and my bottle of water labeled Eucon retains a nebulous connection. I only met Christian Wei once when he graciously let me take three of his wards off his hands so they can move to NMC. Something about the way he handled the matter left an indelible mark that allowed me to trust his word and his ministry, much as our metaphors do not jive.

I've recently ran into stately Kok and bubbly Jimeian Pang while they treated Chinese students to a meal at the end of the school year. They look fine. I am sure, so does Agape.

Dear God's elect is a metaphor I have shorn longtime ago. In their way, it fits the Weis, and leaves the Pangs with a sacred bang!

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Far from over

It wasn't a surprise at all that former governor Benigno R. Fitial asked to be pardoned shortly after he was sentenced to one-year imprisonment for misconduct in public office and conspiracy to commit theft of service. But the same could not necessarily be said about the speed with which Gov. Eloy S. Inos considered a pardon, prompting the Board of Parole to expeditiously schedule a hearing on June 30 and, if necessary, also on July 1.

Fitial, the first CNMI governor to be convicted and sentenced to jail for crimes committed during his term as well as the first to be impeached by the House of Representatives, is now banking on Inos' pardon. The two are longtime friends and colleagues.

If and when Inos makes a final decision soon, Fitial need not spend a minute in jail on or before July 6, 2015 as ordered by the court.

When Inos came into office, he vowed to rebuild the people's trust in government and this is one of those critical times for him to lead the way.

A final decision to grant or not grant a pardon for Fitial could singlehandedly define Inos' leadership and legacy, and may well overshadow his administration's successes and challenges. Fitial's legacy has already been defined, but not Inos'.

The final decision, after consultation with the Board of Parole and others, rests with Inos alone.

But much more important than defining a legacy, Inos' final decision would weaken or embolden people's resolve to hold every CNMI elected official accountable for their actions.

It is about doing the right thing not for one individual but for the CNMI as a whole.

What Fitial did and what Inos is about to do will have a lasting effect on CNMI politics and government for generations to come, and will serve as lessons for both sitting and aspiring leaders.

Inos does not have to go with the seven-member Board of Parole's recommendation at all, and could just sit on a final decision.

Fitial is the first in the CNMI, at least in recent history, to seek pardon even before he could serve a single day of his sentence, according to Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan), who was interviewed for this column strictly on the pardon process. Guerrero spent a total of 18 years with the CNMI Parole Office, eight years of which was as the chief parole officer.

As far as Guerrero can remember, there's a total of about a dozen pardons and commutations under the administrations of former governors Juan N. Babauta, Pedro P. Tenorio, and Fitial. About half of those were during Babauta's term.

Inos, meanwhile, issued on Oct. 11, 2013 an absolute pardon on then Labor secretary nominee Edith Deleon Guerrero, who was convicted of assault and battery in a domestic case more than a decade ago.

Under Article II Section 9(c) of the NMI Constitution, the governor shall, after consultation with the Board of Parole, have the clemency power to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons after convictions to any person for all offenses except impeachments.

The Commonwealth Code, specifically 6 CMC 4251, states that a "reprieve" shall postpone the execution of a sentence, whereas a "commutation" substitutes a lighter penalty for that imposed by the court.

A "pardon," meanwhile, ends penalties or legal disabilities imposed after conviction. The governor may grant an absolute pardon, a conditional pardon, or a partial pardon.

Under 6 CMC 4251, an "absolute pardon" frees the person without any conditions, terminates any punishment and exonerates the person from any guilt or conviction.

A "conditional pardon" depends upon the performance of some act by the person for its validity, or which may become void when some specific event transpires.

Lastly, a "partial pardon" remits only some portion of the punishment, or absolves the person from a portion of the legal consequences, or restores one or more of the person's civil liberties after conviction.

"Prior to granting any reprieve, commutation or pardon, the Governor shall, after initial consultation with the Board of Parole, submit a written notice of intention to grant to an individual a reprieve, commutation or pardon, as the case may be, to the Board of Parole and shall thereafter again consult with the Board of Parole," 6 CMC 4251 states.

It adds, "If the Board of Parole fails, neglects or refuses to consult with the Governor on such intention within 30 days of the receipt of the notice, the Board of Parole is deemed to have been consulted and objected to such intention. Prior to submitting the written notice, the Governor shall request and the office of the Attorney

Indeed, the political nature of Obergefell becomes readily apparent in the contradictory, vague logic of the majority opinion by Justice Anthony Kennedy. The holding fits within none of the established precedents governing the due-process and equal-protection clauses. Kennedy says marriage is a fundamental right, but he admits that American society had long understood that right to be only between a man and a woman. He suggests that the right to equality may require gay marriage, but gays do not receive the heightened constitutional protection reserved for racial and religious minorities. Kennedy could have recognized that gays should receive the same protections against discrimination as gender, but he could not because recognizing sexual orientation as a protected class might open up a Pandora's box of new constitutional claims by every self-defined group.

Some will respond that society was moving in the direction of gay marriage anyway, and that the court was following the popular will. If that is the case, then the court should allow the political process to work. Justices have no special expertise in divining the wishes of the American people. Indeed, as Justice Antonin Scalia noted in dissent, the justices are a strange bunch. They mostly hail from the same regions of the country, went to the same schools, hold similar religious beliefs, and have the same professional backgrounds. An isolated, expert Supreme Court makes perfect sense when the Constitution defends minority rights against the oppressions of the majority, but it makes no sense when settling policy reserved for democratic politics.

In fact, judicial seizure of an issue from the political process may make the consensus in favor of gay marriage less settled. Take abortion, for example. In the years leading to *Roe v. Wade*, states had been liberalizing their abortion laws. *Roe* prevents political resolution of the abortion issue and leads to constant efforts to narrow or reverse abortion rights through litigation, not political persuasion.

Gay marriage will remain subject in the future to the whim of a fifth justice who might choose to side with Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Scalia, Clarence Thomas, and Samuel Alito. If gay marriage had resulted from the decisions of the majorities in each of the 50 states, it would be far more difficult, if not virtually impossible, to reverse. While the end of segregation by *Brown v. Board of Education* provides an all-important counter-example, legal historians today are coming to believe that racial equality accelerated far faster thanks to Congress' passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Unfortunately, the court does not limit its dismissal of democracy to gay rights, but even extends it into less momentous questions of the running of the welfare state.

In *King v. Burwell*, which involved issues of political significance but of no constitutional moment, the justices again displayed their suspicion of politics. In *King*, plaintiffs challenged the Obama administration's nationwide grant of subsidies for the purchase of health

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Haidee V. Eugenio covered politics, immigration, environment, business and other news beats as a reporter for Saipan Tribune and other news media in the CNMI for 16 years.

General, the Department of Public Safety and the Board of Parole shall provide to the Governor all information relating to the criminal record of the person."

Since the news came out that the Board of Parole has already scheduled a pardon hearing for Fitial, community members have taken to social media and other online forums supporting or opposing a pardon.

"You do the crime, you do the time regardless of who you are and who you know" is among the main messages.

Others want a consideration of Fitial's years of public service, his current state of health, his age and his admission of wrongdoing, plus the added cost to the CNMI government of putting him in jail and providing him with medical attention.

But as Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman said during the sentencing, the court cannot allow Fitial's health to depreciate the seriousness of his offenses and that the public's perception of sentencing is a crucial factor in its overall perception of the justice system.

Those who support and oppose a pardon are hoping that the Board of Parole will review all written and oral comments to help in its consideration whether to recommend or not a pardon for Fitial.

And so, just when people thought that the Fitial saga is coming to an end, comes another defining chapter. By all indications, the story and spectacle of Fitial's rise and fall is far from over, more than five years after he ordered the temporary release of a federal inmate from prison to give him a massage during the wee hours of the morning at his private residence and three years after shielding his former attorney general from being served a penal summon.

Supreme Court, with decisions this week, skips over the political process

Congratulations to the gay-rights community for its victory in *Obergefell v. Hodges*. Anyone familiar with liberty's history in our country knew that the American people, sooner or later, would reach this point. But with unprecedented speed (President Barack Obama campaigned in 2008 against gay marriage), gays won a sweeping right to marriage equality thanks to a 5-4 majority of the Supreme Court.

While many will welcome the ends, we may all come to regret the means. Taken together with this term's other blockbuster case, *King v. Burwell*, which upheld Obamacare's health-insurance subsidies, *Obergefell* only accelerates the loss of democratic self-government to a slim majority of the nine unelected justices of the Supreme Court.

No one can seriously claim that the framers of our Constitution or of the 14th Amendment, which guarantees both due process and the equal protection of the laws, understood gays to have a right to marriage. Our Constitution sets out certain core rights necessary for self government—free speech, criminal justice rules, for example—and requires all officials of the three branches of government, and indeed states as well, to devote their fullest efforts to protection of these rights.

But for everything else, our Constitution relies on the political process for decisions. For select national issues such as defense or interstate commerce, we turn to our elected representatives in Washington. Our federal system reserves most other questions in life, such as crime, family law, property, contracts, and accidents, to the states.

Elected officials do not just set tax rates, establish militaries or build roads. They also create rights and establish entitlements. Some of our nation's most central rights, such as Social Security or the ban on workplace discrimination, did not come as gifts from the Supreme Court. Instead, these policies came after years of rough-and-tumble politics and represented a broad social consensus.

Obergefell short-circuits the political process. Instead of campaigning to persuade majorities in each of the 50 states, as it had done in some states, gay-marriage advocates only had to convince five justices to impose a single rule on the nation. While many may welcome *Obergefell*'s result, its method takes a fundamental question away from the realm of democratic self-government and transfers it into the hands of five men and women who never stand for election and hold their jobs for life.

By JOHN YOO

The Philadelphia Inquirer



John Yoo is a law professor at the University of California, Berkeley, a visiting scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, and a former official in the Bush Justice Department. He wrote this for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

insurance. According to its plain text, the Affordable Care Act extended the tax credit only to those who purchase a policy on an "exchange established by the state." Even though the act defined "state" to include only the 50 states and the District of Columbia, but not the federal government, the Obama administration granted tax credits to buyers in states with no exchanges. Thirty-six states refused to set up insurance marketplaces, leaving only an exchange run by the Obama administration as an option.

The ACA's plain meaning may well have stalled Obamacare by making health insurance unaffordable in the states without tax credits, but still requiring that everyone purchase it (an unconstitutional use of federal power upheld, unfortunately, three years ago by Roberts' fifth vote). This tough result emerged from the political process in Congress. It may have been a mistake, a wrong decision, or a ham-handed move to force states into signing up with Obamacare. If Congress made a poor choice, it was up to Congress to fix it, or for the voters to replace their representatives in Washington.

But instead of allowing the political process to run its normal course, the Supreme Court decided to rewrite Obamacare. On behalf of a six-justice majority, Roberts concluded that Congress could not possibly have intended such a draconian limit on tax credits. It must have meant to give the subsidy to everyone, because that would have made for a more effective overhaul of the health-care system. In other words, the court ignored the plain text of the law passed by Congress to write a better one. The justices may have better legal talents than the average legislator, but our Constitution does not give them the responsibility to make the compromises and judgments reserved to the legislative process.

Sadly, Roberts penned the central dissent in *Obergefell* on the ground that the majority was rewriting the Constitution. "Under the Constitution," he wrote, "judges have power to say what the law is, not what it should be." But if he wonders where his colleagues got the idea to assume the power of a supra-legislature, he need only look at his own opinion in *King v. Burwell*. This fault, however, is not his own, or in our stars, but is common to a court that is slowly, but surely, taking away the right of our democracy to govern itself.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼77°

TUESDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°

WEDNESDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°

THURSDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°

FRIDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image

PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough surges east-southeastward from 9N130E through a circulation south of Guam near 7N145E then runs through another circulation near Kosrae at 7N161E turning southeastward to end southeast of Majuro in a disturbance centered near 5N177E. Scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are in several areas across southern Micronesia. One area across Koror and Yap is within 200 miles of a line from 9N130E to 4N146E. A second area near and southwest of Chuuk is between 7N and the equator from 146E to 153E. A third area across Pohnpei and Kosrae states is south of a line from 11N156E to 5N168E. A fourth area across the Marshall Islands is south of a line from 11N168E to 11N174E to 7N180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 82
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 80
Majuro	Cloudy	▲ 84	▼ 80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 61	▼ 52
Beijing	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 67
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 90	▼ 82
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88	▼ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 79	▼ 60
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 84	▼ 65
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 91	▼ 77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 60	▼ 41
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲ 92	▼ 78
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 76	▼ 63
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84	▼ 69
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 62
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 78	▼ 65
Rome	Sunny	▲ 90	▼ 69
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 94	▼ 63
San Francisco	Fog	▲ 64	▼ 53
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 65
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78	▼ 68
Washington, DC	Windy	▲ 78	▼ 63

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
5:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
12:58 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.1 Feet
7:49 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:52 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	4:09 PM	3:07 AM
Tuesday	5:04 PM	3:56 AM
Wednesday	5:59 PM	4:48 AM
Thursday	6:55 PM	5:44 AM
Friday	7:50 PM	6:42 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 28, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily		
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4			OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:45pm+1	6 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	2:15pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM			UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:45pm+1	5, 6 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota		
UA5039/179	2:15pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/179	3:05pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM								

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.											
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM								

— INTEGRATED RESORT — FACT FINDING

Find out the future of Saipan

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Channel 14 every Wednesday
(repeats on Mon & Tue)

Organized by

John Gonzales **LIVE**

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The best thing I could share regarding my visit to Singapore was to be able to experience all those wonderful places that we do not have here on our island. I learned so much; I experienced, exploring all the events and activities in Singapore. And it is not only about casinos, it is all about families having a great time.

Vicky Pangelinan, Unemployed



Saipan's current tourist industry is similar to integrated resorts like Sentosa. Current Saipan attractions include submarine tours, skydiving, local and professional entertainment, and many more. All of which can't be found in Sentosa. How will the current on-island attractions integrate into the Best Sunshine investment?

The size of the facilities goes hand-in-hand with local infrastructure development. New tourist venues will require water and proper sewage. The Singapore government was very active financially in supporting the development of the integrated resort. Saipan doesn't currently have the same financial resources. To be a success, the integration IR plan should be inclusive of government and the private sector with a focus on local residents.

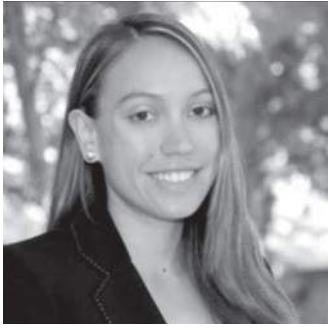
Paul Zak, Business Consultant



WOMEN IN THE KNOW: Andrea Martina Bordallo Hofschneider

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Author's note: Saipan Tribune will be featuring leading women in higher education every week in its newest 10-part series, Women In The Know. Dora Ada was previously featured for , graduating from Northern Marianas College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education with an emphasis on Special Education.. This week's Woman in the Know is Andrea Hofschneider.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Andrea Martina Bordallo Hofschneider.

University in 2013. After completing her master's degree, she studied and passed all four sections of the CPA exam.

The Grace Christian Academy alumna is currently working as an audit associate at Frank, Rimerman + Co, a CPA firm, in San Jose, California.

"I wanted to study finance at Santa Clara because my classes

were interesting and professors were brilliant. I wanted to learn about the safest and riskiest investment vehicles," she told *Saipan Tribune* in an email. "After graduating, I learned that accounting was a little more practical and jobs were high in demand."

An accounting degree, she said, would give her the credentials to take CPA exam and later work at a CPA firm.

She explained that she had to narrow down her college choices to two Jesuit universities, after conducting preliminary research to determine what would be the best fit for her.

"I applied to Santa Clara early admission and learned by Christmas that I was accepted. I was accepted at Fordham University as well, but chose Santa Clara because I had previously

visited the campus and knew that they had a well-respected business school," she added.

The 27-year-old grew up on Saipan and attended Whispering Palms for elementary school, and Saipan International School for half of her high school, career. As an avid student athlete, scholar, and student leader, she said growing up on Saipan contributed to her appreciation of cultural diversity.

She added, "Because there are limited educational opportunities on Saipan, going off to college made me more appreciative of the wealth of resources available to help me achieve my goals."

"Growing up on Saipan also taught me respect for other cultures since our community is very diverse. This translates well to working with people

of different backgrounds at my current job," she explained.

Hofschneider's primary objective is to garner as much experience as she can at her current occupation. She also has her eyes set on becoming a partner and changing careers to become a professional entrepreneur.

"I am open to working in Hawaii, Guam, or Saipan in the next few years," she added.

She advises teens to capitalize on things that they enjoy doing and turn it into a career.

"Don't be afraid to ask for advice or help from others, but always stay true to your heart," she said.

Regulators issue more vendor licenses

By JOEL PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission has issued more vendor licenses, bringing the total provisional licenses to seven, according to commission executive director Edward DeLeon Guerrero.

The casino commission in June issued the first provisional license for a casino vendor outside the CNMI.

The casino vendor will now have a provisional license to provide its machines to Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

DeLeon Guerrero said Konami Gaming, a global company, met the commission's requirements. Konami Gaming also paid the \$7,500 provisional license fee as required by the commission.

A vendor wanting to conduct business with BSI needs a provisional license from the casino commission.

DeLeon Guerrero did not name the vendors, which were awarded the licenses. He said the casino commission will meet Friday to discuss more details and updates on the licenses.

The casino commission has also finally moved out of Capitol Hill to set up its own office.

It is still yet to complete its hiring process, as it anticipates to conduct more regulatory work on the local gaming industry.

Guma' Simiyan Mañaina-ta in Guam

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of Guma' Simiyan Mañaina-ta are in Guam to represent the CNMI at the 2015 Dinana Pa'a Taotao Tano Chamorro Dance Competition and Festival.

This is the first time that the group will be representing the CNMI as Guma' Simiyan Mañaina-ta.

The festival began Friday and lasted until Sunday at the University of Guam Calvo Field House.

"We are able to work on our budget," Guma founder L.J. Castro said, who has been in Guam since early this week to assist the group.

The group has been soliciting funds from the community and raising funds through various activities and even in a crowdfunding website.

Castro, who is on his 10th festival as an instructor, said their group involves 23 performers

Aside from regulating a soon-to-rise casino on Garapan, the commission is also tasked to oversee poker and pachinko machines on the islands.

As of the latest estimate, there are some 700 poker machines in the CNMI.

The commission is set to conduct an audit and inventory of the machines and will tap a foreign firm to conduct the certification of the machines.

DeLeon Guerrero said this is in preparation for the commission's eventual takeover of regulating these machines from the Department of Finance.

DeLeon Guerrero said GLI, a certification company based in Australia, is being eyed to assist the commission with the planned audit.

There was no schedule given on the actual audit.

According to DeLeon Guerrero, the oldest machines were manufactured in 1985, while the most current machine was manufactured in 1991.

Currently, the license fee per poker machine on Saipan is \$12,500, but the law prohibits the issuance of licenses for these machines starting April of this year. The law will only allow new machines to be used exclusively inside approved establishments including hotels and casinos. The purpose of the law is to stop the proliferation of poker parlors or poker rooms in the CNMI.

Stakeholders in developing CNMI's nursing workforce meet

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Partners Investing in Nursing or CPIN was formed after a gathering of stakeholders involved in developing the nursing workforce of the CNMI for the 2019 transition at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation yesterday.

The meeting was spearheaded by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Captain Cathy Wasem, RN, MN, Labor Secretary Edith DeLeon Guerrero, and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muna.

Also present in the meeting were some representatives from the education system and of the hospital's offices.

According to Muna, there will be "continuous conversation" between the stakeholders in further addressing the issue of developing the local workforce when it comes to healthcare.

"The CNMI is strengthening the focus on healthcare. We want healthcare to be a priority," Muna said.

Discussed in the meeting were the programs that are currently in place in the commonwealth regarding workforce development as well as how it

is being used, including funding and support from the Workforce Investment Agency and scholarships like SHEFA.

Gap in students' basic skills to be able to further their studies in the field of nursing was also mentioned.

"There are a lot of standards that need to be met. In a general sense, before we even get to the standards, we need to build upon the basic skills," DeLeon Guerrero said.

The need to identify those who are really interested to be part of the healthcare workforce and having those students to focus on the said industry was also noted.



SUMMER ACADEMY

Participants of the 2015 Northern Marianas College's Summer Academy take time to pose during the recently held Summer Academy orientation. The Summer Academy funded by the College Access Challenge Grant, affords high school students an opportunity to gain meaningful college experience while they are earning transferable college credits. The Academy familiarizes students with college life while they are still in high school and helps students prepare for their eventual transition to college after graduation.

MHS students' report cards out, registration starts June 25

Marianas High School would like to announce that students' report cards are now available. For more information, call 237-3205.

MHS also announced that registration for new incoming students starts on June 25 and will end on Aug. 5.

Documents required are the following:

- Official Transcript/Diploma/Certification of Completion
- Birth Certificate
- Updated school Entrance Health Certificate
- Legal Guardianship from the court with seal (if applicable)
- Medical Insurance or Medicaid

Copies of all required documents must be attached before your child can be registered.

MHS serves students who reside in As Lito, As Perdido, Fina Sis, As Terlaje, Chalan Kanoa, Susupe, Oleai, Chalan Lualau, Garapan, Gualo Rai, China Town, Navy Hill, San Vicente, Kannat Tabla, and Chalan Kiya. (MHS)

NMC



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members of Genshukai take a group photo at Banzai Cliff. Led by Genshu Kurachi, the group played the Japanese traditional harp called a taishogoto to soothe the dead who perished during World War II.

Group visits historic sites to ‘soothe’ souls of war dead

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Seventeen Genshukai members arrived on Saipan last week to play a traditional Japanese instrument to sooth the souls of people who died during World War II. The Genshukai group, which arrived last Monday, played at Banzai Cliff in Marpi with their group instruments called taishogoto, also called the Nagoya harp, which is a Japanese stringed musical instrument. Taishogoto consists of a long, hollow box with strings running its length. Above the strings are a span of numbered typewriter-like keys, which when depressed fret or shorten the strings to raise their pitch. It is played lengthwise and strummed.

Pacific Development Inc. director Gordon I. Marciano said that their chairman, Genshu Kurachi, led them and the group are from Tokai 3 prefectures in Aichi, Gifu, and Mie in Japan. “This is his second visit to Saipan together with the 17 members. He played at Banzai Cliff last Tuesday and Wednesday and flew overnight to Tinian. They conducted a Tinian Japan Friendship goodwill Taisho Koto concert at Kammer Beach,” Marciano said. Kurachi said that he first visited Saipan about 33 years ago. His mother suggested that he play the taishogoto to ease the souls of people who died during the war on Saipan. His mother’s brother also perished in the war on Saipan and was only 22 years old. “It is our great pleasure to have the opportunity to play taishogoto at the beautiful islands of Saipan and Tinian. Genshukai introduces the beautiful Japanese sound of taishogoto to not only in Japan but also overseas,” Kurachi said. “We visited the U.S., Australia, Russia, the Czech Republic, Thailand, and Hungary and established our good friendship. We hope for world peace and expand our friendship,” he added. Kurachi and his group left Saipan last Thursday.

Japanese media tours generate \$5M ad exposure

The Marianas Visitors Authority aided four media FAM tours from Japan this month for coverage expected to bring over \$5 million in media exposure for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. “Sekai Summer Resort” focuses on resort travel destinations and beautiful beaches around the world. The program broadcasts to 3.3 million households in Japan and filmed for five days this month at various beaches on Saipan, Managaha, and Hyatt Regency Saipan for its July 25, 2015, TV episode.

“Sekai Ittemitara Honto ha Konna Tako Datta” spent three days filming on Rota this month for the overseas information variety shows that airs to 5.1 million households across Japan. The program will introduce “Rota’s True Color” and attractions in a 54-minute program,

which airs on July 28. While on Rota, the show filmed at beaches, restaurants, hotel/spa, and other tourist sites. Because of their wide viewership, the two television shows are expected to bring a combined ad exposure value of \$5.4-million to the Northern Marianas. “Investing in familiarization tours by media is one of the MVA’s most cost-effective ways of promoting Saipan, Tin-

ian, and Rota,” said MVA Marketing manager Bruce Bateman. “Our tremendous return-on-investment from this month’s media FAM tours is a strategic part of the MVA’s continuing efforts to sustain and re-grow the Japan market.” The daily news program “Wonder” airs to over 590,000 households in the Osaka area and will air a 20-minute program later this month focus-

ing on Tinian. The program will cover this month’s visit of a World War II memorial tour from Osaka, and includes a memorial ceremony and historic sites on Tinian. Sankei Sports Tokyo Edition visited Saipan to prepare for a sports fishing article in a July edition. The daily newspaper distributes to over 750,000 subscribers and newsstands and will feature two winners of the Sanspo Fishing Challenge 2014 that won a fishing tour in Saipan from the MVA. (MVA)



Century Hotel

Is inviting qualified U.S Citizens to apply for the following vacant positions

Position: (1) BARTENDER

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent with minimum 2 years work experience in the preparation of mixed cocktails required. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential. Able to work flexible hours including evenings and/or weekends.

Position: (2) HOUSEKEEPING CLEANER

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. 6 months to 1 year prior cleaning experience in a large building complex is preferred but willing to train the right candidate. Must be able to lift and carry up to 30 pounds. Must have attention to detail working carefully within the minimum time is essential. Can work flexible schedule including weekends, nights, holidays, and back-to-back when necessary.

Position: (1) GUEST RELATIONS SUPERVISOR

Qualifications: 2 years experience in front office in a supervisory capacity and preferably from a full service hotel/resort. Must be able to supervise and coordinate the activities of guest relations workers to ensure that guests on vacation or business travel have a pleasant experience, while also ensuring the establishment is run efficiently and profitably. Must be proficient in computer software applications. Strong customer service and time management skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends, and nights.

Position: (1) GUEST RELATIONS AGENT

Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. 1-2 years previous work experience as guest relations agent in a high volume hotel is highly preferred. Language speaking skill in Japanese, Korean or Chinese is advantageous. Strong customer service and communication skills are essential. Must have good problem solving skills. Must be able to multitask and is a team player. Knowledge of computer applications is required. Must be able to work flexible schedule including nights, weekends, and holidays.

Position: (2) GENERAL MAINTENANCE WORKER

Qualifications: 2 years experience as a general maintenance worker in repairing or replacing defective equipment parts, using hand tools and power tools and re-assemble equipment is required. Must be able to work independently. Must be able to carry and lift up to 35 pounds. Must be a team player and has good interpersonal skills. Able to work flexible schedule including nights, weekends, and holidays.

Position: (1) A/C REFRIGERATION TECHNICIAN

Qualifications: ER preference. High school graduate must be able to read electrical wiring diagrams and control diagrams. Should be able to troubleshoot refrigeration A/C and refrigeration equipments. Electrical experience is a must and experience is a plus. Must be willing to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

Applications may be obtained and submitted to the Security Office of Fiesta Resort & Spa located on the South Wing, ground floor. Dead-line for submission of applications to be considered is July 5, 2015.

Century Hotel is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Executrix Emerenciana D. Chinen

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE) Civil Action
ESTATE OF:) No. 14-0138
TOSHINORI CHINEN,)
Decedent.) Date: June 30, 2015
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Judge: Honorable
David A. Wiseman**

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR
DECREE OF FINAL DISTRIBUTION**

**TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS,
CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE
LATE TOSHINORI CHINEN:**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Emerenciana D. Chinen, Executrix of the Estate of Toshinori Chinen, has filed with the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands a **Petition for Decree of Final Distribution**. The attorney for Executrix is **Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law**, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950. The hearing on the Petition for Final Decree of Distribution has been set for the **30th day of June, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.**, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, *Guma' Hustisia*, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.
Dated this 27th day of April 2015.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • website: www.cda.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
2015-CDA-05-RFP

Closing Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 Time: 10:00 a.m.

“ FINANCIAL & COMPLIANCE AUDIT – FISCAL YEARS 2015 AND 2016”

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor, CDA Building, Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposal in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ OSCAR C. CAMACHO /s/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Acting Executive Director Director, Procurement & Supply

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp
Tels: (670) 234-6866/9447/7689/7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Available for Public Review
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Consolidated Plan 2015-2019
And Program Year 2015 Annual Action Plan
June 29, 2015

Governor Eloy S. Inos, Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors wish to announce the availability for public review and comment, the CNMI Consolidated Plan 2015-2019 (ConPlan) and the Program Year (PY) 2015 Annual Action Plan (AAP).

The ConPlan and AAP are mandated by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning and Development, for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds by the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI). The CNMI Government is the designated recipient of these HUD grant funds. NMHC administers CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs on behalf of the CNMI Government.

The ConPlan sets forth the CNMI’s plans for supporting low- and moderate-income populations through the creation and preservation of decent housing, sustainable living environments, and economic opportunities for the next five years.

The AAP announces the use of HUD CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds totaling \$1,354,702 for the first year of this ConPlan cycle.

Copies of the ConPlan and AAP will be available beginning June 29, 2015 at the following NMHC locations:

• Main Office:	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, Saipan
• Rota Field Office:	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, SongSong Village, Rota
• Tinian Field Office:	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, San Jose Village, Tinian

You may also download the document via NMHC’s website at www.nmhc.gov.net.

Public Hearings for the ConPlan and the AAP will be as scheduled:

- Saipan NMHC Main Office, 6 p.m., July 15, 2015
- Rota NMHC Field Office, 6 p.m., July 15, 2015
- Tinian NMHC Field Office, 6 p.m., July 16, 2015

Written comments should be submitted to the NMHC Main Office, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Thursday, July 30, 2015. For further information, please contact Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director, at 670-234-6866.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

MVA seminars in Japan draw record participation



The Marianas Visitors Authority hosted the Marianas Sales Seminar on May 27, 2015, in Tokyo, Japan. The event was attended by 160 travel trade and media representatives from the area.

The Marianas Visitors Authority attracted a record number of participants to its annual Marianas Sales Seminars held this year in Japan.

The seminars promote the destination to travel trade and media representatives and introduces new marketing plans, including upcoming campaigns and events, plus an introduction to new on-island attractions.

This year's seminars on May 27-29, 2015, attracted 160 participants in Tokyo, 54 participants in Osaka, and 70 participants in Nagoya.

"The Marianas Seminars are an opportunity for us to give our travel trade and media representatives the latest destination information they need to help us sell the Northern Marianas. We also reaffirm existing partnerships

and establish new contacts," said MVA Marketing manager, Bruce Bateman. "We see this year's attendance numbers as a sign that our efforts to sustain the Japan market during their economic downturn and now rebuild the market are going to pay off."

Tourism partners also participating in the seminars were: Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, Aqua Resort Club, Coun-



The Marianas Visitors Authority hosted the Marianas Sales Seminar on May 29, 2015, in Nagoya, Japan. The event was attended by 70 travel trade and media representatives from the area.

try House/Moby Dick, Couture Naoko Wedding, Sand Castle, Saipan/Sea Touch, Hyatt Regency Saipan, PIC Saipan, PDI,

Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Kanoa Resort Saipan, Marianas Resort & Spa, Marianas Trekking,

LaoLao Golf & Resort, Northern Marianas College, Rota Resort and Country Club, and T-Galleria. (MVA)

MVA invites military families at travel fairs

The Marianas Visitors Authority conducted promotions in Guam last week, targeting both military personnel and their families and the general public.

The 11th Annual Joint Military Travel Fairs were conducted and organized by the Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) unit on each base. The first travel fair was conducted on June 10 at the Coral Reef Fitness Center Gym-

nasium on Andersen Air Force Base, with an estimated 550 attendees. The second fair was held on June 11 at the Charles King Fitness Center Gymnasium on Naval Base Guam, with approximately 350 attendees.

"The MVA's participation in the annual military travel fairs is our greatest opportunity to meet face-to-face with military personnel and their families

stationed on Guam," said MVA Marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "Rota, Tinian, and Saipan are excellent, nearby holiday options for them."

The MVA operated a promotional booth and distributed information about Saipan, Tinian, and Rota at both events. Calls on travel agents and dive shops were made while the delegation was on Guam. (MVA)

SPC advances drone use during disaster assessment in Vanuatu

PORT VILA, Vanuatu—A specialized team from the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has successfully completed its contribution to the Cyclone Pam damage assessment in Vanuatu, using unmanned aerial vehicles or drones.

The technical assessment team was deployed to assist with the Vanuatu Government's damage assessment in April, tasked with determining damage to infrastructure and buildings, coastal inundation and three-dimensional shoreline change.

The team from SPC's Geoscience Division included one expert flown in from Germany with a copter drone (which flies using eight rotating blades), financed by the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with assistance from GIZ.

Using SPC's own fixed-wing drone and the copter drone, the team was able to employ the latest techniques to conduct mapping surveys of affected areas, including 10 villages in north-east Efate and seven villages and settlements in south-east Tanna. Having returned to Suva in May, the team has since been analyzing the data and sharing it progressively with the Vanuatu Government and other partners involved in the post-disaster assessment.

"Overall, the mission went well as we collected a range of information not only important for the Post Disaster Needs As-

essment directed by the Vanuatu Government, but also for medium and longer term coastal management initiatives," the SPC Team Leader of the mission, Herve Damlamian, said.

"Using two drones, we were able to collect high resolution topography data within the coastal zone and compare it with previous data gathered before the cyclone. This comparison is providing great insights into how the beach responds to large waves produced by cyclones.

"The use of drone technology in post-disaster settings is still relatively new. We need to capitalize on the lessons learnt from this survey so that the deployment of drones to assess disaster-related damage can increasingly contribute to quick impact assessments, particularly in remote areas.

To view cloud points generated from SPC's drone survey in Vanuatu, please see <http://gsd.spc.int/pointcloud/>. (Note a viewer other than Internet Explorer is required).

The use of two drones complemented the damage assessment carried out by SPC with satellite image data from Digital Globe and enabled surveys of areas for which no cloud-free space born image data were available. The SPC team also was equipped with survey-grade GPS employed for ground control points in centimeter precision, which is important for

calibrating data collected from the drones.

Damlamian explained that the fixed-wing drone can cover large areas within a short period of time, whereas the copter drone can be deployed faster and requires minimal clearance area for takeoff and landing. The copter is also capable of viewing objects from different view angles, which potentially provides better information.

"Collision risk was greatly minimized by the professionalism and hard work of the air traffic controllers at the Port Vila Airport," Damlamian added.

The SPC team consisted of Mereoni Ketewai, Amrit Raj, Zulfikar Begg, Teja Kattenborn (from Germany), and Damlamian.

Category five Cyclone Pam struck Vanuatu in March this year with devastating force, and also impacted Tuvalu and Kiribati. For more on SPC's support, visit: <http://www.spc.int/cyclone-pam-response/>.

This week in Port Vila the Government of Vanuatu, through its National Disaster Management office, is reviewing its disaster response arrangements at a lessons learned workshop, with involvement from SPC, civil society organisations, faith-based groups, non-governmental organisations, the European Union, United Nations agencies, regional organizations and the private sector.



Marianas Visitors Authority Marketing manager Bruce Bateman distributes information and answers questions at the 11th Annual Joint Military Travel Fair on June 11, 2015, at Naval Base Guam.



Military service members and their families were the target market for the Marianas Visitors Authority's promotional outreach during the 11th Annual Joint Military Travel Fairs on June 10-11, 2015, in Guam.

Business

Parliament approves referendum; Greece's future in balance

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greece's parliament voted early Sunday in favor of Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras' motion to hold a July 5 referendum on creditor proposals for reforms in exchange for loans, with the country's future in the eurozone looking increasingly shaky.

Tsipras' surprise call stunned Greece's international debt negotiators, and the country took a big step closer to falling out of the euro currency union after fellow eurozone member states refused to extend its bailout program past its expiry date on Tuesday, leaving Greece on the brink of financial chaos.

In the streets of Greece, worried people queued outside banks for cash from dawn to dusk after Tsipras' announcement in the early hours of Saturday, after billions of euros had already been emptied in the preceding weeks.

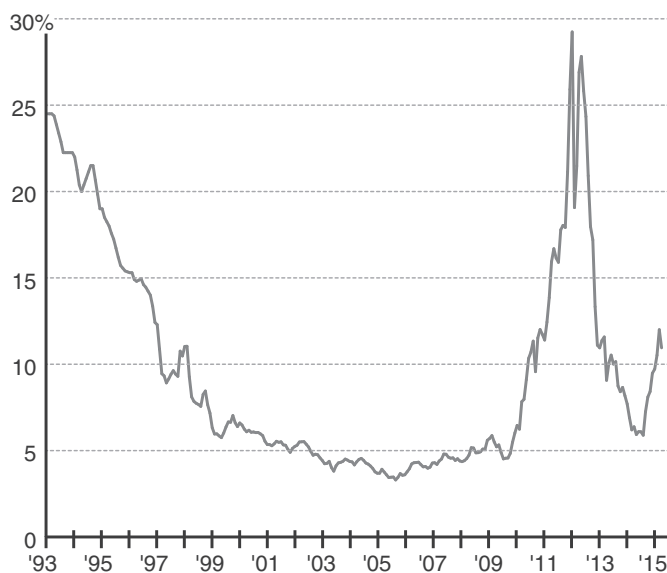
Greece has a 1.6 billion euro (\$1.8 billion) debt due to the International Monetary Fund on Tuesday and its bailout program expires the same day, after which it is unclear how the country might survive financially.

The referendum is set for next Sunday with the question on whether to accept proposed reforms needed to get bailout loans from other eurozone countries and the IMF. The government is advocating a rejection of the proposals.

The radical left-wing leader accused the creditors of using blackmail and ultimatums against his proud but struggling people. European officials and all Greek opposition parties except the extremist far-right Golden Dawn party called his move for a vote a foolish and

Greece interest rates

Long-term monthly interest rates for Greece. Rates were at their highest in February of 2012 at 29.2%



Source: European Central Bank
Graphic: Tribune News Service

rash gambit that effectively ended negotiations to keep Greece financially afloat.

The sudden move comes after five months of stalemated negotiations, with Tsipras accusing creditors of trying to strong-arm his country into taking harsh austerity measures he says would hammer an economy already on its knees after months of creditor-demanded spending cuts and tax hikes.

"They didn't ask us to agree, they asked us to surrender our political dignity," Tsipras said during a tumultuous and nearly 13-hour parliamentary session that culminated in a vote just before 3 a.m. Sunday. Out of parliament's 300 lawmakers, 178 voted in favor and 120 against, with two people absent.

He insisted the Greek side had "exhausted every limit" of concessions so there could be an agreement, adding that "perhaps

some saw that as a weakness."

The referendum move further crumbled already strained relations between Greece and its European partners.

Tsipras said the Greek people would vote against a deal next Sunday.

"This no will also be a big yes, a big yes to the decision of the Greek government to reject an ultimatum that insults the Greek people."

Tsipras dismissed harsh criticism from other European countries on his decision.

"The referendum will take place as scheduled, next Sunday, whether our partners want it or not," he said.

Eurozone finance ministers earlier rejected Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis' request for a one-month extension to the bailout program, with Varoufakis then leaving the meeting.

Merkel has said repeatedly that her aim is to keep Greece in the euro. But voters are unlikely to hold a failure of that effort against her "because she has owned this role of protector in the euro crisis for several years," said Peter Matuschek, the head of political and social research at Germany's Forsa polling agency.

"The majority have the impression that she's doing what she can, and if it doesn't work out it probably wasn't down to her," he said, with Greece's government widely viewed in Germany as the culprit for the standoff.

Merkel's knack for reassuring Germans that she has a confusing crisis under control dates back at least to 2008 when, amid the fallout from Lehman Brothers' bankruptcy, she announced that the government was guaranteeing all private bank savings.

Since the eurozone debt cri-

Merkel faces Greek challenge with strong political capital

BERLIN (AP)—German Chancellor Angela Merkel has emerged undamaged from the global financial crisis, European bailouts, an astonishing U-turn on nuclear power and the crisis over Ukraine.

Now, with the future of efforts to resolve Greece's fiscal woes up in the air, the long-serving leader looks well-placed to emerge strong even if they fail.

Over a decade leading Europe's biggest economy, Merkel has enjoyed consistently high popularity and accumulated a store of political capital at home that would be the envy of most other leaders on the continent.

Her conservative party has a seemingly unassailable poll lead, no credible challenger is in sight and the German economy is strong. Her steady-handed, reassuring and risk-averse leadership style resonates with German voters and has earned her the nickname "Mutti," or Mama.

Nation

Long struggle, quick endgame as same-sex marriage prevails

NEW YORK (AP)—Back in 1996, President Bill Clinton signed a law stipulating that the federal government would not recognize marriages between same-sex couples. On Friday night, the White House was illuminated with rainbow colors in celebration of the Supreme Court ruling legalizing such marriages in every state of the nation.

For gay-rights activists, the two decades between those moments were marked by a dramatic mix of setbacks and victories.

As recently as 2004 there was widespread despair among proponents as voters in 13 states approved constitutional amendments banning same-sex marriage. At that time, some activists questioned whether marriage equality was a realistic goal. Others, while wary of appearing too optimistic, suggested gay marriage might take hold by 2020.

"In that climate, it sounded ambitious and bold, but it rallied a critical mass of leaders

Officers use floodlights, checkpoints in hunt for escapee

MALONE, N.Y. (AP)—Officers scouring dense and boggy woods for a surviving escaped killer took floodlights into the search area overnight, and others carrying rifles manned checkpoints and examined vehicles, opening trunks and peering into windows.

Franklin County Sheriff Kevin Mulverhill said late Saturday tips continued to pour in and he was optimistic David Sweat would be captured, perhaps within 48 hours.

"It's going to be one of those phone calls that turns this case around," he said.

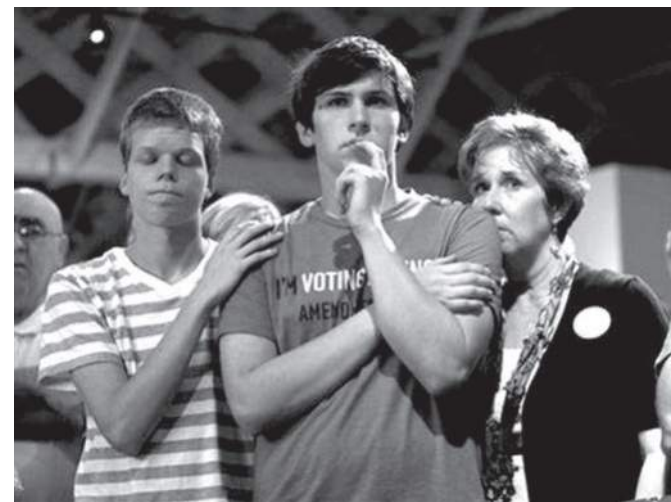
Richard Matt—who once vowed never to be taken alive—was fatally shot Friday during an encounter with border patrol agents about 30

Charleston suspect's life a troubled road to radicalization

CHAPIN, S.C. (AP)—The people who know Dylann Storm Roof—the people who watched his progression from a sweet child to a disturbed man—are struggling with guilt. How could they have missed the signs? Could they have done something to prevent the deaths of nine innocents at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church?

How did it all happen? Roof himself offers no answers. He sits in North Charleston's Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center, charged with the murders, his \$1 million bail far beyond reach.

But talk to his friends and family, and a portrait emerges



In this Tuesday, May 8, 2012 file photo, Seth Keel, center, is consoled by his boyfriend, Ian Chambers, left, and his mother Jill Hinton, during a concession speech at an Amendment One opposition party at The Stockroom at 230 in downtown Raleigh, N.C.

to believe maybe it was attainable," said Evan Wolfson, president of the advocacy group Freedom to Marry that played a key role in developing the campaign's strategies.

That once audacious timetable proved to be overcautious. As more gay people came out of the closet, more of their relatives and acquaintances be-

came supportive of gay rights. Popular television shows such as "Will and Grace" and "Modern Family" accelerated acceptance with empathetic portrayals of gay characters. Opinion polls over the past 10 years showed a huge shift in attitudes toward same-sex marriage, which is now supported by 55 to 60 percent of Americans.

miles west of the prison he escaped from with Sweat on June 6. Sweat remained on the lam early Sunday, and about 1,200 searchers focused intensely on 22 square miles encompassing thick forests and heavy brush around where Matt was killed.

Police hoped the solo escapee would finally succumb to the stress of little sleep, scant food and biting bugs.

"Anyone in the woods and on the run from the law so to speak is not getting a full eight hours sleep, they're not eating well and they have to keep moving," Mulverhill said.

"He's fatigued, tired, and he's going to make a mistake."

Sweat could have an even tougher time now without someone to take turns resting

with and to watch his back, Clinton County Sheriff David Favro said.

"Now it's a one-man show and it makes it more difficult for him," Favro said. "And I'm sure fatigue is setting in for him as well, knowing the guy he was with has already been shot."

The manhunt broke open Friday afternoon when a person towing a camper heard a loud noise and thought a tire had blown. Finding there was no flat, the driver drove eight miles before looking again and finding a bullet hole in the trailer. A tactical team responding to the scene of the shot smelled gunpowder inside a cabin and saw evidence that someone had fled out the back door.

tricia Hastings, who was once his step-grandmother.

Seventeen years later, she is among many who are trying to figure out what happened to Dylann Roof.

There is little dispute his childhood was difficult.

Franklin Bennett Roof was a 25-year-old carpenter working for a home construction company, when he met 29-year-old Amelia "Amy" Cowles, a recent divorcee, barely 5-feet tall with blonde hair to her ankles. He was the son of a prominent Columbia attorney; she was a bartender at the Silver Fox. They married in 1988 and had a daughter, Amber, four months later.

Asia

Gay activists in Asia are upbeat about impact of US court ruling

Gay rights activists in Asia, where no country allows same-sex couples to legally marry, are upbeat about prospects for a change following the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling legalizing such marriages in every state of the nation.

A look at some of the reactions and background on gay rights:

SOUTH KOREA

South Koreans' attitudes toward sexual minorities have been shaped by a patriarchal culture that emphasizes traditional values and the experience of military dictatorships that condemned homosexuality. Conservative Christianity, which was mainly imported from the U.S., is strong in the country and a powerful political lobby.

"Following the legalization of same-sex marriages in European countries, the decision in the U.S. strengthens the sense that this is the inevitable way of moving forward, and South Korean politicians will be required to express their thoughts on it," said Han Ga-ram, an openly-gay human rights lawyer and activist.

HONG KONG

"It's one step forward for the United States that leaves Hong

Kong one further step behind," said lawyer Michael Vidler.

Vidler is part of a legal team challenging a government decision to deny a dependent visa to a gay British woman so she can live with her partner in the socially conservative southern Chinese city. The pair formed a civil partnership in 2011 and moved to Hong Kong the same year after the woman's partner landed a job. But the woman, identified only as QT, has been twice denied a dependent visa, leaving her unable to work.

The outcome of the case could have an impact on the city's reputation as a global financial center and leading business hub. While the U.S. ruling won't have any effect on legislation in the specially administered Hong Kong, "clearly it shows that the tide is turning, in fact has turned, and Hong Kong has been left behind," said Vidler.

JAPAN

In Japan, homosexuality is not illegal, "but the atmosphere is such that most people feel homosexuals should not exist," said Kazuyuki Minami, a lawyer in Osaka. "It's tough. It's hard to come out to families, friends and in the workplace."

Minami held a marriage ceremony with his own partner, who is also a lawyer, in 2011.

Though Japan has some very popular transgender entertainment personalities, homosexuality is not widely accepted in its mainstream culture. Schools tend to foster specific male and female models for behavior.

CHINA

The news has quickly spread in China's social media, where the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling rekindled public discussions on homosexuality and same-sex marriage in this traditionally conservative but largely atheist country.

Li Yinhe, a leading Chinese sexologist who has long urged Beijing to legalize same-sex marriage, said that the U.S. ruling could be exemplary for China and help sway the public opinion in favor of same-sex marriage in China.

"The Chinese people usually think that China is a poor country and the United States is rich, and that what America has achieved is our future goal," she said.

"I think the ruling will have a big impact on China and may promote the legalization of same-sex marriage in China."

Sri Lankan leader dissolves Parliament, calls August polls

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Sri Lanka's President Maithripala Sirisena dissolved the Parliament loyal to his predecessor and called fresh elections in August in an attempt to consolidate power and carry out his promise of reforms.

Sirisena issued the notice at midnight Friday announcing the election for the 225-member Parliament for Aug. 17.

Sirisena won the January presidential election against Mahinda Rajapaksa on a pledge

of full-scale political reforms, but has faced resistance from lawmakers in implementing his program. It includes reducing powers of the presidency and changes to the electoral system.

A majority of the lawmakers in the dissolved Parliament belonged to the United People's Freedom Alliance, which Rajapaksa led until his defeat.

Sirisena is also keen to secure cooperation of a new Parliament ahead of an internal investigation into war crimes allega-

tions in the final stages of the country's civil war.

In March, Sirisena secured postponement of a United Nations report on the alleged atrocities by promising a domestic investigation. The U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights is expected to release the report in September.

Calling an election ahead of the report is also an apparent bid to deny Rajapaksa an opportunity to come back to power by stirring up nationalism.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Weeklong heat wave in southern Pakistan kills 1,233 people

ISLAMABAD (AP)—A devastating weeklong heat wave in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi killed 1,233 people, an official said. Nazar Mohammad Bozdar, operations director at the Provincial Disaster Management Authority, said about 65,000 heatstroke patients were treated by doctors at all of Karachi's hospitals since June 20 when the heat wave struck Sindh province, where Karachi is the provincial capital. He told The Associated Press that 1,923 patients with heat-related ailments were still being treated. "The government quickly responded by making arrangements for the treatment of heatstroke patients and the situation has improved now," he said.

More than 500 injured as fire hits Taiwan water park party

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—A fire on a music stage spread into a crowd of spectators at a Saturday night party at a Taiwan water park, injuring more than 500 people, including eight in critical condition, authorities said Sunday. The fire was sparked by an accidental explosion of a colored theatrical powder thrown from the stage in front of about 1,000 people, the fire agency and local media said. The powder for the one-time event called "Color Play Asia" ignited along the ground, mainly burning people's lower bodies, said Wang Wei-sheng, a liaison with the New Taipei City fire department command center. Taiwan's Central News Agency reported witnesses as

saying the fire at the Formosa Water Park in New Taipei City spread quickly after powder was blown into the air.

Bus overturns, hit by truck on highway in China, killing 12

BEIJING (AP)—A bus overturned on a highway and was hit by an oncoming truck in eastern China, killing at least 12 people, officials said. Another 24 people were injured Friday, including three in serious condition, the government of Wuhu city in Anhui province said. The crash was under investigation. State broadcaster China Central Television said the bus overturned into the opposite lane and was hit by the cargo truck. It wasn't clear how many people were aboard the two vehicles.

World

US same-sex marriage ruling likely to impact other countries

LONDON (AP)—The landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling in favor of same-sex marriages has no legal force outside the United States, but gay rights activists in many parts of the world believe the court ruling will help their cause.

In the Philippines, in India, in Australia and elsewhere, gay rights advocates think the U.S. ruling may help change attitudes, just as American activists—and judges, educators and legislators—had earlier been influenced by the easy acceptance of same-sex marriage in some European countries, where the laws were changed smoothly without much fuss.

In today's wired world, political movements cross national boundaries in the blink of an eye, and the trend toward legal acceptance of same-sex marriage is gaining pace, though still rejected outright in some parts of the globe. The U.S. is neither laggard nor leader in this movement, which reflects a fundamental change in public views in many parts of the world, but the ruling of its highest court is expected to have a ripple effect elsewhere.



Participants on O'Connell Street in Dublin take part in a Gay Pride parade in Dublin Saturday June 27, 2015.

In the Philippines, activists seeking to win legal recognition for same-sex marriages believe the U.S. ruling will be useful, particularly since the country's legal setup is largely based on the U.S. system, said Sylvia Estrada Claudio, a gender rights advocate and professor at the University of the Philippines.

"This ruling will have positive repercussions for our own movements here," she said.

The Philippines' civil code limits marriage to a union

between a man and a woman—but the constitutionality of this proviso is being challenged by a lawyer, Jesus Nicardo Falcis III.

Countries are taking different routes to the same conclusion: the U.S. pathway relied on a Supreme Court ruling to establish that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry, while Ireland last month used a popular vote that showed strong public backing, despite the country's deep Catholic roots.

Activists: IS fighters kill 200 civilians in Syrian town

BEIRUT (AP)—Islamic State fighters who launched a surprise attack on a Syrian border town massacred more than 200 civilians, including women and children, before they were killed or driven out by Kurdish forces, activists said on Saturday.

Kurdish activist Mustafa Bali, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and Kurdish official Idris Naasan put at 40-50 the number of elite IS fighters killed in the two days of fighting since the militants sneaked into the town of Kobani before dawn on Thursday.

Clashes, however, continued to the south and west of

the predominantly Kurdish town on the Turkish border on Saturday, they said, although the fighting in the south quietened down by nightfall.

Naasan said 23 of the city's Kurdish defenders were killed in the fighting, but the Observatory put the number at 16. The discrepancy could not immediately be reconciled, but conflicting casualty figures are common in the aftermath of major fighting.

"Kobani has been completely cleared of Daesh, and Kurdish forces are now combing the town looking for fighters who may have gone into hiding,"

Bali, using the Arabic acronym for the IS, told The Associated Press by telephone from Kobani. The official Syrian news agency, SANA, also reported that Kobani has been cleared of IS fighters.

The more than 200 civilians killed in the last two days include some who perished in IS suicide bombings, including one at the border crossing with Turkey, but they were mostly shot dead in cold blood, some in their own homes, the activists said.

"They were revenge killings," Rami Abdurrahman, the observatory's director, told the AP.

Police arrest Kuwaiti national, others for mosque bombing

KUWAIT CITY (AP)—Police have arrested a number of people, among them a Kuwaiti citizen, suspected of being behind a suicide bombing at a Shiite mosque that killed 27 people, Kuwait's Interior Ministry said early Sunday.

The announcement came just hours after thousands of people took part in a mass funeral procession on Saturday for those killed in the country's first terror attack in more than two decades.

An upstart local affiliate of the Islamic State group, calling itself the Najd Province, claimed responsibility for the

bombing, which took place during midday Friday prayers inside one of Kuwait's oldest Shiite mosques. The IS group views Shiites as heretics and is fighting Iranian-backed Shiite militias in Iraq and Syria.

The Interior Ministry said in its statement that one of the suspects arrested is a Kuwaiti man who was using his home as hideout for the others. Police said another suspect is a 25-year-old from Kuwait's "bidoon" community, which is largely made up of descendants of desert nomads considered stateless by the government. They have long

claimed the government is depriving them of citizenship and rights.

The arrests highlight the threat posed to Western-allied monarchies in the Gulf from young locals lured to the IS group's extremist ideology and its call for supporters to carry out homegrown attacks.

Police did not say how many suspects have been arrested. The government-linked Al-Jarida newspaper reported that seven suspects had been detained overnight.

The suicide bombing has rattled Kuwait, known for its relative wealth and stability.

Health & Fitness

Trim gym trend turning fitness fans into business owners

NEW YORK (AP)—Slim one-room gyms are in, and the low cost of starting them is turning gym rats and workout instructors into entrepreneurs.

There are no Olympic-sized pools, rows of treadmills or steam rooms in these small fitness studios. Instead, devotees sweat through hour-long classes in tiny spaces, swinging heavy kettlebells or practicing yoga poses. Some of the studios resemble high-energy nightclubs with dim lights and loud music. Classes can be pricy, at about \$30 each, but that's not keeping people away.

Boutique fitness studios are growing fast, popping up in cities around the country, taking over small spaces that once housed businesses such as beauty salons or video game shops. Starting out small makes these slim gyms a low-risk bet for aspiring entrepreneurs.

"We started this with zero dollars," says Brittany Blum, co-owner of yoga studio Ritual San Francisco. Ritual opened earlier this year in a 1,000-square-foot studio that is inside a large gym. Ritual's owners negotiated a deal with the gym, paying it a percentage of sales instead of a monthly rent.

Ritual charges \$25 for its

classes. Yoga moves are set to the beat of bass-heavy songs, such as Ginuwine's "Pony" and 50 Cent's "Candy Shop." The studio is lit only with candlelight, and clients get a head massage before leaving. "You feel like a better version of yourself; calmer, happier, more energized," says Anne Faricy, a brand strategist in San Francisco, who goes to Ritual's classes about four times a week.

Blum is looking for a second space for Ritual that's double the size. The current studio holds 16 customers at a time. "It's packed in there," Blum says.

Two years ago, The Fhitting Room in New York opened with a 1,000-square foot studio; now there are two additional locations in the city.

The "hit" in Fhitting's spelling stands for high intensity training, a strength-building workout that uses kettlebells and pull-up bars. Owner Kari Saitowitz was a marketing executive before she quit to raise her two children. She started taking high intensity training classes and decided to open a studio of her own. Saitowitz hires trainers to teach the \$35 classes, while she focuses on the studio's branding. The lime green towels, for exam-



ple, match the color of The Fhitting Room's logo, customers are called "Fhixers" and t-shirts sold at the studios say "Live Fhit."

Saitowitz plans to open a studio outside of New York. "We have a short list of cities," she says.

Boutique fitness studios are the fastest growing part of the gym industry, says Meredith Poppler, spokeswoman for the International Health, Racquet and Sportsclub Association. They made up 21 percent of

the fitness industry in 2013, the first and most recent year the IHRSA measured boutique studios. Awareness may grow even more next month, when the E! network airs "Hollywood Cycle," a reality show that follows the owners and instructors of Los Angeles cycling studio Cycle House.

The trend has been fueled, in part, by cycling chain SoulCycle and intense workout craze CrossFit, says Poppler, both of which gained popularity in the past decade. And word of mouth

helps too: "If you're seeing results," Poppler says, "you're going to tell your friends about it."

Fitness fanatics are willing to pay for the high-priced classes because they "see being fit as a status symbol," says health club consultant Bryan O'Rourke. "There's a cool factor."

O'Rourke says studios can be opened for as little as \$30,000, if the space is small and not much equipment is needed, but can balloon to \$500,000 if owners go all out with designing the interior. By com-

AP
Gym instructor Javier "Coach Java" Martinez, second from right, guides participants doing inverted rows on a jungle gym at the Fhitting Room boutique fitness studio, Tuesday, June 23, 2015 in New York.

parison, hiring staff, buying exercise equipment and building locker rooms for a big, traditional gym can cost up to \$1 million or more. Major cities, such as New York, Los Angeles and Miami, face fierce competition from already established studios, O'Rourke says.

Garrett Roberts planned to open a 14,000-square-foot gym in Hoboken, New Jersey, but negotiations on the \$30,000 a month rent fell through and a big gym chain snapped up the space. A real estate agent showed him a nearby 1,000-square-foot studio for \$2,050 a month in 2011. He took it. "It wasn't a huge investment," Roberts says. He opened GoRow, a studio with nine rowing machines that charges \$29 a class. Many of GoRow's customers live in Hoboken, but work in New York, where they're used to walking past boutique fitness studios. "I knew it would work," he says.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Loving Memory of

†**NADINE ELIZABETH
TENORIO CAMACHO**

September 3, 1982 – June 22, 2015

Paternal Grandparents: †Manuel Tudela Camacho & †Elizabeth Flores Camacho

Maternal Grandparents: †Pedro Arriola Tenorio & Isabel Sablan Tenorio

Paternal Aunts & Uncles:

Mercedes (Isias Maratita), Augustina (Jose Cabrera), Wilhelma Juana (Jesus Guerrero), Arturo (Maria Balajaya), Frederico (Magdalena Castro), †Leonardo, Alfonsinia (Jim Taylor Fl.), Anicia (Thomas Dela Cruz), Rosiky (Winnie Aldan-Cabrera), Immaculada (Abraham Arriola), Rufino (Kyomi Mafnas)

Maternal Aunts & Uncles:

Pete Sablan Tenorio, Jr./Virginia Camacho Tenorio; Margarita Tenorio Cabrera/†Maximo Camacho Cabrera; Laura Tenorio Quitano/Jose Quitano; Lino Sablan Tenorio/Marcela Tudela Tenorio; Magdalena Tenorio Aguon/Jose Quichocho Aguon; Catherine Sablan Tenorio / Sixto Kaipat Igisomar

Parents: Faustino Flores Camacho & Maria Lillian Tenorio Camacho

Children: Lance Jude Camacho & Elizabeth Milagro Camacho

Sister: Brenda Lynn Tenorio Camacho/ Geraldine T. Aguon

Brothers:

Manuel Tenorio Camacho / Jennifer Santos Camacho (Mathew, Claymore, Ozzy); Sidney Tenorio Camacho / Victoria Apatang (John David, Donovan, Jacoby); Zachary Tenorio Camacho (†Zachary Jr., Donovan, Zack Boy, Zion); Sherman Tenorio Camacho / Jennelyn Cepeda Camacho (Julianna, Shanelle)

She is also survived by numerous other aunts & uncles, nephews, nieces, and cousins



On Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at 7:15 a.m., her remains will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home to San Roque Parish. Responso and Rosary will commence upon arrival followed by viewing and last respects.

Mass of Christian Burial will then be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. immediately followed by interment at the San Roque Cemetery.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Mr. & Mrs. Faustino F. Camacho & Family

Life & Style

Raquel Welch talks Hispanic pride, refusal to change name

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jo-Raquel Tejada remembers one of the first times that she had to take a stand for her identity.

She came home from school one day, tired of being called Jo. She didn't like that name and felt more comfortable with Raquel. The next day, the girl's white mother, Josephine, who had named her Jo after herself, went to the school and asked that her daughter's name be changed to simply Raquel.

Unknowingly, the girl had won a key battle about her Hispanic heritage, an issue she largely ignored after taking her first husband's last name and becoming a sex symbol known as Raquel Welch.

Even though she doesn't speak much Spanish, the 74-year-old actress says now that her Latino background is indeed part of who she is.

"I think language is very important to your identity and not having that ... I sometimes feel isolated from that part of me," said Welch in a recent interview. "Yet I still feel very, very Hispanic. The essence of who I am is a Latina."

The actress, who once stood up to Hollywood to keep her first name, was to be honored Saturday with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the

National Association of Latino Independent Producers.

"I think if you have an Anglo-Saxon background and you are of Latino descent, the Latin side wins out. It's something about your temperament and your essence," said Welch, whose father was Bolivian. "I felt that I was more sensual than a lot of the young girls that I went to school with. I didn't think it was anything special but I could see that I did have these things in my chromosomes, so I was feeling very much my father's daughter."

Welch started to look into her roots after a long and successful career in Hollywood, where she starred in such 1960s films as "Fantastic Voyage" and "One Million Years B.C."

In 2002, she appeared in the PBS series "American Family," about a Mexican American household in East Los Angeles.

The actress has also taken Spanish classes but says she doesn't speak Spanish fluently, which makes her feel insecure about her identity.

"Do you think I'm a traitor because I don't speak Spanish," she asked a reporter during her interview.

Welch says she didn't learn Spanish because her father, Armando Tejada, didn't speak his native language at home.



In this Oct. 11, 2014 file photo, Raquel Welch arrives at the 2014 Carousel Of Hope Ball in Beverly Hills, Calif.

"He wanted to spare us some of the difficulty and, he felt, prejudice against people who speak with an accent," she said. "I really wish that he would have spoken in Spanish at home so I could have it as second nature."

Welch also refused Hollywood's request that she change

her name to "Debbie." Her father named her Raquel after his mother and that wasn't going to change.

"People didn't like my name and they said it was too ethnic, too difficult to pronounce, too exotic," she said. "They wanted to change it and I was not happy at all. I did really feel like Raquel."

Welch says that every so often, she hears from fans who tell her they named their daughters after her.

"There are many Raquels waking around now," she said.

After a successful, decades-long career, the actress has no regrets, yet looks at her sex-symbol years with mixed feelings.

"I enjoy the fact that I was celebrated in that capacity," she said. "It was limiting, though. But the truth of the matter is that because my look was kind of exotic, I was never going to get cast in all the roles that I'd like to get cast in."

Teed off at Univision, Trump drives dispute off course

NEW YORK (AP)—Donald Trump to Univision: Get off my lawn.

Firing back at Univision for its refusal to air his Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants, the outspoken mogul and GOP presidential candidate has barred anyone who works for Univision from the greens of his Miami golf course.

In a letter Friday to Randy Falco, Trump advised the Univision CEO that "under no circumstances is any officer or representative of Univision allowed to use Trump National Doral, Miami—its golf courses or any of its facilities."

Trump also demanded that Falco, whose company's Miami office is next door to Trump National Doral, "immediately stop work and close the gate which is being constructed between our respective properties." Trump gave Falco one week to take care of that matter, or "we will close it."

The letter was dispatched a day after Univision declared it was canceling its coverage of the Miss USA pageant July 12 on its UniMas network as well as the Miss Universe pageant, which had been scheduled to air on the flagship Univision channel next January, and was severing its business relationship with the Miss Universe Organization, which produces both pageants. The reason: what Univision called "insulting remarks about Mexican immigrants" recently voiced by Trump, a part owner of Miss Universe.

During his presidential campaign kickoff speech last week, Trump had portrayed immigrants from Mexico as "bring-



This June 16, 2015 file photo shows developer Donald Trump as he delivers remarks during his announcement that he will be a Republican candidate for president, in New York.

ing drugs, they're bringing crime, they're rapists, and some, I assume, are good people." He also called for building a wall along the southern border of the U.S. The remarks drew condemnation from the Mexican government as "biased and absurd," and sparked Univision's announcement.

Trump, who has said his criticism was directed against U.S. policymakers, not the Mexican people or its government, stated Thursday that Univision would be defaulting on an ironclad contract if it doesn't air the pageants. He pledged to take legal action against the company.

He also accused the New York-based Univision of having ties to Mexico that led the network to submit to pressure from Mexican leaders to punish him for pro-U.S. positions he expresses as a presidential candidate.

"They don't want me saying that Mexico is killing the United States in trade and killing the United States at the border,"

Trump had said.

In a P.S. to his letter, which was addressed to Univision's Manhattan headquarters, Trump continued on that track.

"Please congratulate your Mexican Government officials for having made such outstanding trade deals with the United States," he wrote Falco. "However, inform them that should I become President, those days are over. We are bringing jobs back to the U.S. Also, a meaningful border will be immediately created, not the laughing-stock that currently exists."

The letter was signed, "Sincerely, Donald J. Trump."

When asked for comment on Trump's letter, Univision seemed to be treating it as par for the course. A memo to Univision management on Thursday directed that, as part of the company's decision to cut ties with Miss Universe, employees "should not stay at Trump properties while on company business or hold events/activities there."

Grateful Dead to bid faithful 'Fare Thee Well' in California

SANTA CLARA, Calif.

(AP)—The four surviving members of the Grateful Dead are launching their farewell mini-tour on Saturday in Northern California, where the legendary jam band got its start 50 years ago.

The first of the Dead's five "Fare Thee Well" shows is scheduled to take place at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, not far from the pizzeria where a five-man blues-rock band called The Warlocks played its first gig in May 1965. The group changed its name to the Grateful Dead seven months later and shortly after moved to San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury neighborhood, the counterculture hub with which the Dead still are identified.

They will perform a second two-set show in Santa Clara on Sunday before heading to Chicago for three shows at Soldier Field on July 3, 4 and 5. Soldier Field is where the Grateful Dead last played as a group before the death of lead guitarist-songwriter Jerry Garcia in August 1995.

The band's so-called "core four"—rhythm guitarist Bob Weir, bassist Phil Lesh and percussionists Mickey Hart and Bill Kreutzmann—insist July 5 will be their last concert



In this Aug. 3, 2002 file photo, The Grateful Dead, from left, Phil Lesh, Bill Kreutzmann, Bob Weir and Mickey Hart perform during a reunion concert in East Troy, Wis.

together. They have recruited Phish front man Trey Anastasio as Garcia's stand-in on guitar and vocals. Keyboardists Bruce Hornsby and Jeff Chimenti, best known for his work with Weir's band RatDog, will round out the lineup.

Although the Dead are known almost as much for their legions of die-hard tie-died fans as they are for their extended onstage improvisations, Deadheads won't have much space to make themselves at home at Levi's Stadium, the year-old home of the San Francisco 49ers.

The parking lots where tail-

gating will be allowed open at 3 p.m., and they will have to be emptied after the show ends.

The Grateful Dead made 65,000 tickets available for each of the California shows. Online ticket reseller StubHub said that as of Friday the average ticket had gone for \$171, although sellers had posted asking prices as high as \$725.

The Chicago shows, which were announced first and are opening over a holiday weekend, are fetching higher prices, \$674 on average, StubHub spokeswoman Jessica Erskine said.

Cosby lawyer: Unsealing court docs 'terribly embarrassing'

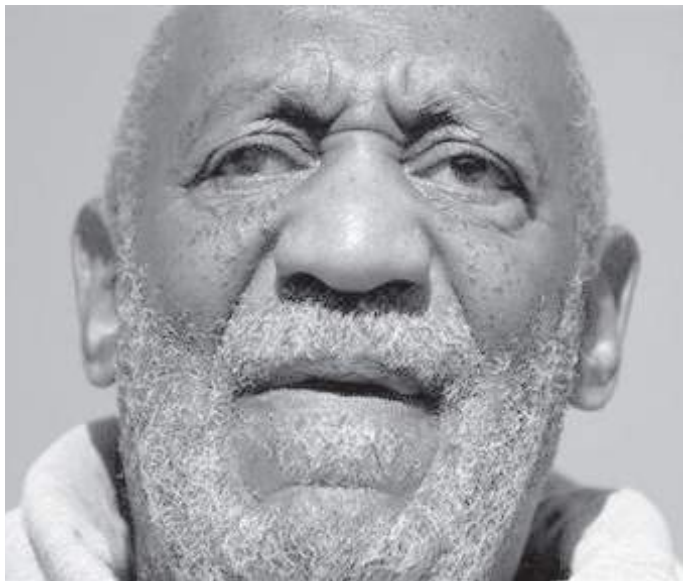
PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A lawyer for Bill Cosby argued Friday that it would be “terribly embarrassing” for the comedian if documents from a 2005 sex-assault lawsuit were unsealed.

Cosby is fighting efforts by The Associated Press to unseal motions from a lawsuit he settled with a former Temple University employee.

The lawsuit accused Cosby of drugging and sexually assaulting the woman at Cosby's home. The settlement is confidential.

Cosby's lawyer argued that his client's deposition could reveal details of Cosby's marriage, sex life and prescription drug use.

“It would be terribly embarrassing for this material to



In this Nov. 11, 2014, file photo, comedian and Navy veteran Bill Cosby speaks during a Veterans Day ceremony in Philadelphia.

Cosby would be embarrassed by the release of his sworn testimony, given that the accusations in the Temple woman's lawsuit are already in the public eye.

“Why would he be embarrassed by his own version of the facts?” Robreno asked.

The lawyers also argued over whether Cosby was a public figure entitled to a lesser degree of privacy.

Lawyer Gayle Sproul, repre-

sented the AP, called him “an icon” particularly in Philadelphia, who “held himself out as someone who would guide the public in ways of morality.”

Robreno had never decided whether the temporary seal on some filings should be made permanent before the case settled in 2006. Under local court rules, Cosby has the burden to show why seals should not be lifted after two years, the AP argued.

Gowen argued that Cosby might not have forged the confidential settlement if he thought his deposition testimony and other motions would someday get out.

Common, Oyelowo diversify film academy membership

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After widespread criticism of the film academy's overwhelmingly white slate of Oscar nominees this year, the organization has announced a roster of potential new members that skews younger and more diverse.

Kevin Hart, Common, Emma Stone, Dev Patel and “Whiplash” writer-director Damien Chazelle are among the 322 membership invitees announced Friday.

“It's really gratifying to see the big increases in genre, people of color, age and national origin,” academy President Cheryl Boone Isaacs said in an interview.

Others invited to join the academy include Benedict

Cumberbatch, David Oyelowo, Sergio Mendes, Elizabeth Banks, John Legend, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Tom Hardy and “Dope” director Rick Famuyiwa.

Membership in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is by invitation only. Oscar nominees are automatically considered; others must be sponsored by two members of their branch of filmmaking.

“We've stressed very much that our members in each branch, it's their duty to really pay attention to a diverse talent pool, to those coming up, to those that may have been overlooked for membership,” Boone Isaacs said. “I think that effort has paid off well this year.”



In this Feb. 22, 2015 file photo, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) president Cheryl Boone Isaacs arrives at the Oscars in Los Angeles.

come out,” lawyer George M. Gowen III argued.

He said the public should not have access to what Cosby was forced to say as he answered questions under oath from the accuser's lawyer nearly a decade ago.

“Frankly, ... it would embarrass him, (and) it would also prejudice him in eyes of the jury pool in Massachusetts,” Gowen said.

More than a dozen women

have since accused Cosby of sexually assaulting them, and three have a defamation lawsuit pending against him in Massachusetts. They allege that he defamed them when his agents said their accusations were untrue. Cosby is trying to get their case thrown out before discovery. He has never been charged with any related crimes.

U.S. District Judge Eduardo Robreno asked Friday why

Jimmy Fallon's injured hand shelves 'Tonight' show

NEW YORK (AP)—“Tonight” show host Jimmy Fallon is on the shelf following a hand injury that required minor surgery Friday and forced NBC to cancel a taping of late-night TV's most popular program.

Fallon tweeted Friday that he tripped and when he caught his fall his ring caught on the side of a table and “almost ripped my finger off.”

“I'm doing well and thanks for good wishes everyone,” he tweeted.

He has some built-in recovery time since the show was scheduled to be on hiatus for the next two weeks anyway.

“Tonight” was supposed to have Benicio Del Toro, Taylor



In this Aug. 25, 2014 file photo, Jimmy Fallon presents an award at the 66th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles.

Kitsch and Penn & Teller as guests Friday. NBC is airing a rerun instead.

Rapper DMX arrested in NYC over unpaid child support

NEW YORK (AP)—Rapper DMX has been arrested for failure to pay child support just as he was about to perform at Radio City Music Hall.

A spokesman for the New York City Sheriff's Department tells WPIX-TV (http://bit.ly/1HmtUVO) the 44-year-old rapper was taken into custody Friday for several “issues outstanding.”

He said those included \$400,000 worth of unpaid child support, a warrant issued by

the city of White Plains for bail jumping and a robbery complaint out of Newark, New Jersey. No charges have been filed in the Newark case.

The rapper's real name is Earl Simmons. He had been scheduled to perform at the Master of Ceremony concert at Radio City.

A management company that has represented DMX did not immediately return an email seeking comment from The Associated Press.



In this Oct. 1, 2011 file photo, DMX performs during the BET Hip Hop Awards in Atlanta.

Greet fussy daughter-in-law with open arms and minds

DEAR ABBY: My son is being deployed for 10 months. His wife and baby are coming to live with me, and I am thrilled.

My concern is that his wife is a picky eater and she doesn't do much around the house. Would it be too much to ask her to help with the chores while my husband and I are at work? How do I handle the mealtime dilemma? (She doesn't cook.)

I don't want her to feel like she's our live-in maid or that we're mean about the meals we prepare. We want to be the best in-laws we can be. Help?

MEANING WELL IN THE EAST

DEAR MEANING WELL: After your daughter-in-law arrives, schedule a family meeting during which everyone's household responsibilities will be discussed. If necessary, create a chart to keep track of them. If there are things she is able to do, assign them to her. If she's clueless, then teach her. Do not overload her, and make sure she understands that you and your husband also have chores you will be doing.

Because she's a picky eater, ask her to list what items she wants in the house so they are available. If she's interested, offer to show her how to prepare some of the dishes your son has always enjoyed because it would be a nice surprise for him

once he returns. And arrange regular monthly meetings, so that if adjustments need to be made, they can be done without hurt feelings or misunderstandings.

You are all adults. If you want this to work and are all willing to communicate and listen, you should be able to accomplish your goal without your daughter-in-law feeling like the maid.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and her husband are taking their three boys to Europe for five weeks. The 13-year-old has been acting out. He has been rude to his school bus driver, disrespectful to his mother, was the “class clown,” and shows all the signs of an uncomfortable pubescent boy without a safety net to catch him.

We are two states apart, so it would be difficult to lend a hand. My grandsons are very close to me, and there are lots of tears when they leave Grandma.

I taught inner-city school for 20 years and have often told my daughter how important consistency is. This precious boy is pleading for attention the wrong way. The other two boys, ages 9 and 12, are not problematic kids.

My fear is that the 13-year-old is not ready or mature enough to handle five weeks in Europe, and not disciplined enough to keep his cool. He is capable of a caper that may lead to his disappearance.

Am I crazy to be this concerned? I have told my daughter my

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



thoughts, but she is the mother, so I am treading lightly.

WORRYING IN CALIFORNIA

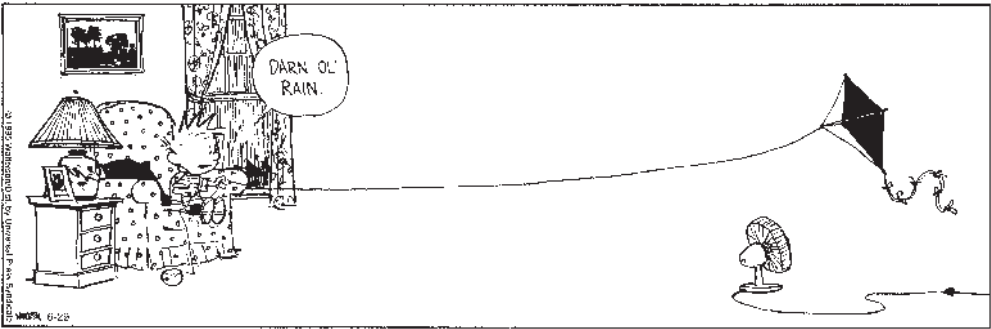
DEAR WORRYING: Are you “crazy”? No. You are a loving, caring grandmother who is worried about her grandson. But regardless of how well-meaning you are, this isn't your decision to make. If you have shared your thoughts with your daughter, you have done as much as you can. Now cross your fingers and wish them bon voyage.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

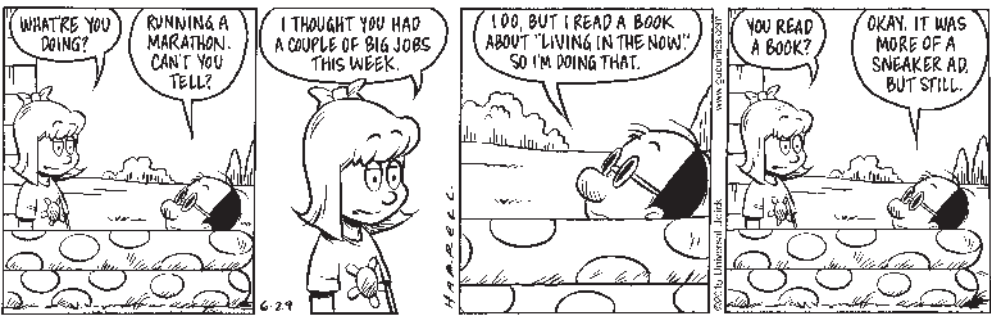


Garfield®

By Jim Davis

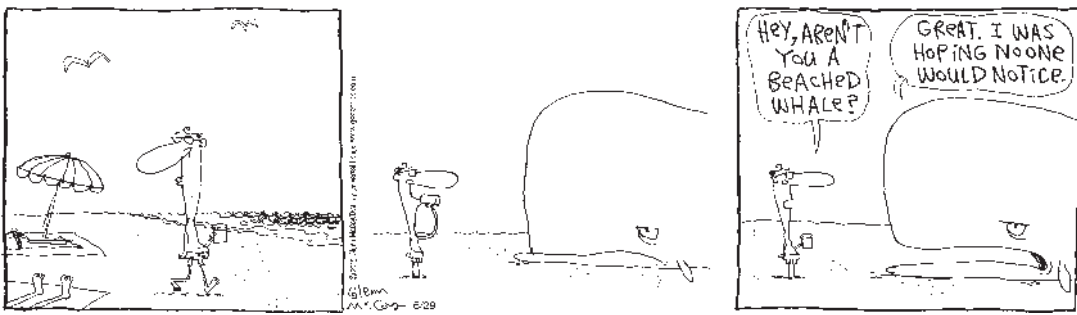


By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

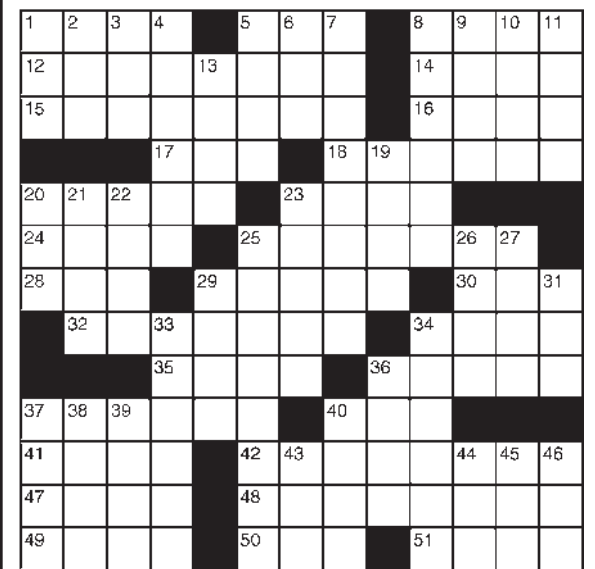


CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 34 Deuce 50 "Mayday!" 13 Break
1 Black 35 Chooses 51 Sicilian suddenly
and white 36 Song of volcano 19 Grate
cookies 37 Long-praise 20 Derek
5 Bro's 38 Short-Diddle 21 Aladdin's
kin 39 Short-Needle
8 Hawaiian 40 Poetic-foot case
island 41 Actress 22 Cars
12 Period 42 West topping 25 Soldiers
14 Opening 43 Cheer 26 Gumbo
day? 44 (for) base
15 Womanly 45 Voters in 27 Rind
16 Give 46 College? 29 Catch
as an 47 Initial chip sight of
example 48 Place 31 Workout
17 Cross- 49 Where 33 Wobble
word clue 50 Motorists 34 Infectious
abbr. 51 Take pals fly
18 White- 52 Five 36 Treaty
board 53 "Cheers" 37 Colorless
adjunct 54 Order -friendly
20 Censor- 55 — 38 Top-
ing sound 56 — 39 Doves'
23 Hebrew 57 — 40 Disarray
month 58 — 43 Virgo
24 Feedbag 59 — 44 Mel of
fill 60 — 45 Director
25 Inge 61 — 46 Hot tub
play
28 Dallas
sch.
29 Devour
30 Small
barrel
32 NASCAR
repair
break

Solution time: 26 mins.

Friday's answer 6-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Nicole Scherzinger, 37; Jeff Burton, 48; Melora Hardin, 48; Gary Bussey, 71.

Happy Birthday: Don't limit what you can do this year because someone has put restrictions or demands on you. Be proactive and follow through with your own ideas and you will avoid regretting what might have been. Choose your own route instead of letting someone else make decisions for you. Don't take the path of least resistance. Stand tall and do things your way. Your numbers are 3, 12, 21, 27, 30, 35, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Idle time will lead to arguments. Travel, adventure and discovering new ways to bring in more money should be your priorities. Take advantage of an opportunity to learn. Publishing, writing and communicating will help you master your skills and enhance your position. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can make positive personal changes if you do so in moderation. Spending less and making needed updates will add to your appeal and help you advance. Good fortune will depend in part on your ability to be practical. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be direct if someone is not giving you straight answers. Don't take on a responsibility unless you understand what's required of you. Spend more time on yourself and on completing home improvements that will benefit you and your loved ones. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Work at achieving your goals by using alternate methods to get results, and you will stand

out and make a lasting impression. Physical challenges will help you release any pent-up emotional anger or frustration. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take part in networking events. Don't let uncertainty lead to an unrealistic promise. Accept the changes happening at work or with your economic situation, and work at developing new ways to use your skills and knowledge. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Miscommunication will throw you off course. Be careful when discussing important issues with business or personal partners. Put more time and energy into making a difference and helping others. Less talk and more action will bring the best results. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A lazy attitude will lead to complaints and disagreements. Take care of your responsibilities quickly and move on to solitary activities that are geared toward self-improvement. Offer romance over debate. Emotional blackmail won't help you get your way. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can make a difference if you roll up your sleeves and go to work in support of a cause you feel passionate about. Don't let what others do slow you down. Follow your intuition and don't back down from a challenge. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Plan a vacation or sign up for something you want to do. An serious talk with someone you are involved with will help you resolve any misconceptions or changes you want to make to your current arrangement. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Deal with contracts, settlements, legal, financial or medical issues swiftly. A change can be expected and should be handled with caution to avoid conflict or complaints. Don't get angry, make changes to offset untimely consequences. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): When opportunity strikes, take charge and reach for the stars. Love is on the rise, and making plans with someone special will lead to a better personal life and future. Speak from the heart and you will get what you want. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Neglecting emotional matters will lead to regret. You may be busy, but taking care of your family's or personal partner's needs first will be necessary if you want to get back to business without interference or interruption. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are charming, smart and generous. You are a trendsetter.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★ 6/29

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ZEBRA HABITATS Solution: 6 letters

H E T I H W S A N N A V A S E
E Z I S A B U E B A M I I W G
A D S L R L U A Y S N U B I R
T S D L T A Q N N A A A I L E
G S N E M C E I Z E B H M D V
R E A H A K A N T M E L A Z Y
A L L C N T A A I R E A N R S
S E D R N T L Z B A L O G N A
S N O U S P Z I V A I F I G F
L A O B L W V E T L R A S R R
A M W A O O S S L I L E B O I
N A N D R G A A V P A P U U C
D T A E I O T E I R I A R P A
S E S W C S R H I L L C H L E
M S T R I P E D S M E T S U N

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Africa, Angola, Arid, Black, Burchell's, Cape, Coastal, Equus, Foal, Grasslands, Grevy's, Group, Hartmann's, Heat, Herbivores, Hill, Kenya, Leaves, Maneless, Mare, Mate, Meadow, Mountains, Namibia, Plains, Plants, Plateau, Prairie, River, Sahara, Savanna, Shrubs, Size, Stallion, Stems, Striped, Sun, Tanzania, Twigs, White, Wild, Woodlands, Zimbabwe

Last Friday's Answer: Feathers

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

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2-Auto Mechanic, 2-Auto Painter & 2-Body Repairer. Please call United Brothers Inc. at 323-1328

2-Radiology Technologist (x-ray), \$10.00/hr. Call Precision Medical Imaging, LLC Tel. #233-4582.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Auto Marine Inc. is seeking for (1) Commercial Diver. Must have at least 5 years experience in SCUBA Diving

Interested applicants, please call Mr. Adonis Santos at 323-2916

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Local Couple Seeking Surrogate
If you are female between the ages of 21 and 40, have had at least one natural child birth, and are interested in learning more about being a surrogate, please call Karen @ 783-1367. Compensation is over \$22,000.

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UPHOLSTERERS: (2) Positions (SAIPAN & GUAM)

- Considerable knowledge of the practices and methods of upholstery works, and the use of machinery and equipment for upholstering.
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- Good knowledge of upholstery materials selections.
- Salary: Negotiable

Special consideration will be given to any individual who is eager to pursue a professional career as an Upholsterer.

V-KOOL Marianas USA LLC is looking for

Window Film Installer "Film Specialist": (3) Positions (SAIPAN)

- Considerable knowledge of the industrial practices of adhesive window film installation.
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- Ability to work independent with minimum supervision.
- Salary: Negotiable

Special consideration will be given to any individual who is eager to pursue a professional career as a Film Specialist.

Submit a typed resume or call 670-235-8938 to arrange for an interview before or on **July 3rd, 2015** at 3A'S POLYSHINE, CK, Beach Road.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

MACS Marine is seeking for (1) Maintenance Repairer. Must have at least 3 years experience in repairing boats and knowledgeable in fiber glassing.

Interested applicants may call Mr. Adonis Santos at 322-6227

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Now Recruiting for School Year 2015-16:

1 Part-Time Teacher for Math or Writing, Grades 5-8

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Opening Date: **June 19, 2015** Closing Date: **July 3, 2015**
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Pierce opts out of contract with Wizards



WASHINGTON (AP)—Paul Pierce is opting out of the final year of his contract with the Wizards and will become a free agent Wednesday.

The veteran small forward signed a two-year deal with Washington last summer that included a reported \$5.5 million player option for the 2015-16 season.

Pierce told The Player's Tribune website of his decision, and the Wizards confirmed his move Saturday.

The Wizards reached the Eastern Conference semifinals in Pierce's first season with the team. Washington went 46-36, the franchise's most victories since 1978-79, then swept the Toronto Raptors in the first round of the playoffs before losing to the Atlanta Hawks in six games.

Pierce starred during the postseason with several clutch moments, including a jumper at the buzzer to beat the Hawks in Game 3. He appeared to have made a game-tying 3-pointer in the final second of Game 6, but replay revealed the shot came after the buzzer.

Pierce averaged 11.9 points and 4.0 rebounds in 73 starts during the regular season.

He played his first 15 seasons with the Boston Celtics, winning an NBA championship in 2008, before being traded to the Brooklyn Nets before the 2013-14 season.

Meanwhile, in Cleveland, general manager David Griffin said shooting guard J.R. Smith will be a free agent after he did not opt in for the final year of his contract.

Also, Griffin said he's not concerned about the possibility of Kevin Love making free-agent visits to other teams and that James has been in daily contact with the team about its summer plans.

Brian Harman takes Travelers Championship lead

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)—Brian Harman has always looked up to Bubba Watson, who preceded him as a standout left-hander for the University of Georgia Bulldogs.

On Sunday, Watson will begin the day looking up the leaderboard at Harman as the two begin play in the final round of the Travelers Championship.

Harman birdied the 18th hole for his second consecutive 5-under 65 and a one-stroke lead over Watson and Canadian Graham DeLaet on Saturday in the Travelers Championship.

Looking for his second PGA Tour victory, Harman had a bogey-free round to take a 14-under 196 total into the final round at TPC River Highlands.

Harman hit a 149-yard wedge to 4 feet on the par-4 18th. He



AP
Paul Pierce is opting out of the final year of his contract with the Wizards.

"We've heard from him every day pretty much relative to our roster," Griffin said of the superstar, who will opt out of his deal next week. "It's been great. He's been very much engaged with us on a lot of different levels, so it's been positive."

It's the second straight year the Cavs and Timberwolves have done big business. Last summer, Cleveland sent Andrew Wiggins and Anthony Bennett—both No. 1 overall picks—to Minnesota in exchange for Love, who had an uneven first year with Cleveland and then sustained a season-ending shoulder injury during the playoffs.

Love has expressed a desire to re-sign with the Cavs and Griffin said the club isn't worried about him bolting.

"He's been very clear with what his intentions are all along,

certainly any time he has stood in front of anybody he has said that," Griffin said. "I'm not concerned about it and at the same time we're very much intending to pursue him the instant that we are able to."

As for Smith, Griffin indicated the Cavs have interest in bringing him back.

"If it's the right situation for us, yeah," he said. "We intend to pursue those conversations."

Smith helped the Cavs shake off a poor start this season, but the streaky shooter didn't deliver the way the team needed him to in the postseason and it's unclear how much outside interest he'll find for his services.

Following Cleveland's recent loss to Golden State in the NBA Finals, Griffin said he wanted to mimic the Warriors' model and add more versatile playmakers

to Cleveland's roster in order to help James, who was almost left on his own after injuries side-

lined Love and All-Star guard Kyrie Irving.

By dealing their first pick,

SIDEBAR

Big nights for the biggest markets in NBA draft

NEW YORK (AP)—From coast to coast, the NBA draft was a big night for the biggest markets.

The Los Angeles Lakers tabbed their next potential superstar in D'Angelo Russell. The New York Knicks landed a pair of players in the first round, selecting Kristaps Porzingis and later acquiring the rights to Notre Dame guard Jerian Grant.

Both teams are coming off their worst seasons in their histories and hoping the turnarounds started Thursday.

Russell is ready to do his part.

"I'm here, and I'm ready to make an impact right away," the Ohio State point guard said.

A little surprised to go second after Duke center Jahlil Okafor had long been considered the player at that spot, Russell received big cheers when Commissioner Adam Silver called his name.

The boos were loud and long two picks later when the Knicks took the 19-year-old Latvian forward. But the announcement of the Grant trade had New York fans who packed Brooklyn's Barclays Center roaring in approval of Phil Jackson's moves.

Porzingis had said repeatedly he hoped to be picked by the Knicks - including to Grant.

"I kind of smiled and laughed and shook my head, not realizing that I'd be his teammate a few hours later,"

Grant said.

Some highlights, and lowlights, from Thursday night's NBA draft:

HOW 'BOUT THOSE T'WOLVES! Give the Timberwolves credit. No, NBA insiders haven't been able to say that in a while. But drafting Karl-Anthony Towns and swinging a trade for Minnesota native Tyus Jones out of Duke to line up with Andrew Wiggins and the Timberwolves deserve an A+ for their draft efforts. The venerable Kevin Garnett might be around to see another play-off run, something that hasn't happened in 11 years.

KENTUCKY 6: It was a good night for five of the seven Kentucky players who entered the NBA draft. But not for the Harrisons. Andrew was picked late in the second round, but he probably couldn't celebrate - at least not like he wanted. His twin brother Aaron went undrafted. The twins were the backcourt that led the Wildcats to a 38-1 record and trip to the Final Four. The Wildcats would have set a record with seven selections had both brothers been picked.

MULTIPLE MEN: With Jahlil Okafor, Justise Winslow and Tyus Jones, Duke has had at least two players picked in five straight drafts. National player of the year Frank Kaminsky and Sam Dekker gave national

the Cavs will maintain some financial flexibility because they won't be locked into paying guaranteed money, up to as much as \$5 million with salary cap taxes, to a first-round selection. They need to save as much room under the cap as possible heading into free agency.

Griffin said it was important for the Cavs to add assets, and based on the volume of talks he's heard in recent weeks, he expects there to be "an incredible number of moves between now and the end of July."

This was the first time in three years the Cavaliers didn't have the No. 1 pick. It was a welcomed change for a franchise again transformed by the return of James, who led the Cavs back to the finals this season and figures to have them in title contention for the foreseeable future.

However, that could depend on what else happens this summer.

Last week, Griffin said the team intends to keep its core together from last year and hopes to re-sign Tristan Thompson, Iman Shumpert and Matthew Dellavedova—all restricted free agents.

runner-up Wisconsin multiple selections for the first time since 1995 (Michael Finley and Rashard Griffith).

THE 'TRILL': Moziah Bridges, 13, is used to the bright lights. The teen makes and sells bow ties, appearing on "Shark Tank" last year in search of investors. He now runs a \$200,000 company and was especially pleased that No. 6 pick Willie Cauley-Stein donned one of his creations for the draft. Bridges names each design and may just go with Cauley-Stein's nickname "Trill" for the blue-and-white polka dot creation debuted on draft day.

SO CAVALIER: Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle is a proud Virginia alum. And he let everyone know it when he stepped to the podium in Dallas to announce the No. 21 pick in the first round. "So we're really happy we got a chance to draft Justin Anderson from the 2015 NCAA College World Series champion Virginia Cavaliers," Carlisle said, with a slight smile. Virginia won its first baseball title in Omaha, Nebraska. Carlisle said he didn't think there was much of a scouting advantage for him on the 6-foot-6 Anderson, "He's just a real sincere, authentic kid," the coach said. And besides, "Obviously comes from a great institution, well-educated."



sank the putt after Watson, who led by two strokes after the each of the first two rounds, missed a 17-footer.

"Bubba's a lot of fun to play golf with," Harman said. "He was a little before me at Georgia, so I always looked up to him, was always really proud of the way he was doing and we were always rooting for him at Georgia."

This is the second 54-hole lead for Harman, who won the 2014 John Deere Classic from the front on the final day.

"He's a solid player," Watson said. "It sounds funny saying this, but he's like a little bulldog."

Watson shot a 68 in a light rain after opening with a tournament-best 62 on Thursday and adding a 67 in the second round.

He needed a bit of luck Saturday after his tee shot on the par-

4 15th hole went left and into the woods. He got a fortuitous bounce high off a tree trunk and the ball dropped back over the gallery and into the fairway bunker. He was able to save par from there.

"It hit the tree and everybody roared," he said. "I had to ask the camera guy, and he said it was in the bunker."

DeLaet, playing on wife Ruby's birthday, had five birdies and grabbed a share of the lead with an eagle on the 15th, putting his drive within 6 feet of the pin.

He had a chance to move to 14 under, but left an 18-foot birdie putt on 18th just short.

DeLaet was in a three-way tie for first place with Watson entering the final round two years ago before finishing third. He has never won on the PGA Tour, and had back surgery for a pinched nerve in 2011, a problem that he says still bothers him.

Cardinals top Cubs, first to reach 50 wins



ST. LOUIS
(AP)— Michael Wacha pitched

six solid innings, and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Chicago Cubs 8-1 on Saturday night to become the first major league team with 50 wins.

Jason Heyward reached four times in St. Louis' fifth straight victory. The major league-best Cardinals (50-24) have five winning streaks of five games or more this season.

Wacha (10-3) allowed one run and six hits, bouncing back from a rough start at Philadelphia. The right-hander was tagged for five runs and eight hits against the Phillies in his worst start of the season last Sunday.

Chicago has lost four in a row after a four-game winning streak.

Cubs right-hander Don Roach (0-1) lasted just 3 1/3 innings in his major league appearance of the year. He was charged with four runs and eight hits while subbing for Tsuyoshi Wada, who has a sore elbow.

St. Louis improved to a major league-best 28-7 at home with their eighth consecutive win at Busch Stadium.

The Cardinals scored four runs in the fourth and fifth. Heyward singled and scored on Yadier Molina's double in the fourth, and walked and scored on Randal Grichuk's double in the fifth.

Kolten Wong, Matt Carpenter and Xavier Scruggs each drove in two runs as St. Louis reached the 50-win mark before July for the first time in franchise history. Scruggs, who had three hits, gave the Cardinals the lead for good with a run-scoring single in the fourth. Carpenter capped the inning with a two-run single.

Wong's two-run double was the key blow in the fifth inning.

Roach drove in Starlin Castro with an RBI single in the second. Castro has hit safely in his last 12 games against St. Louis.

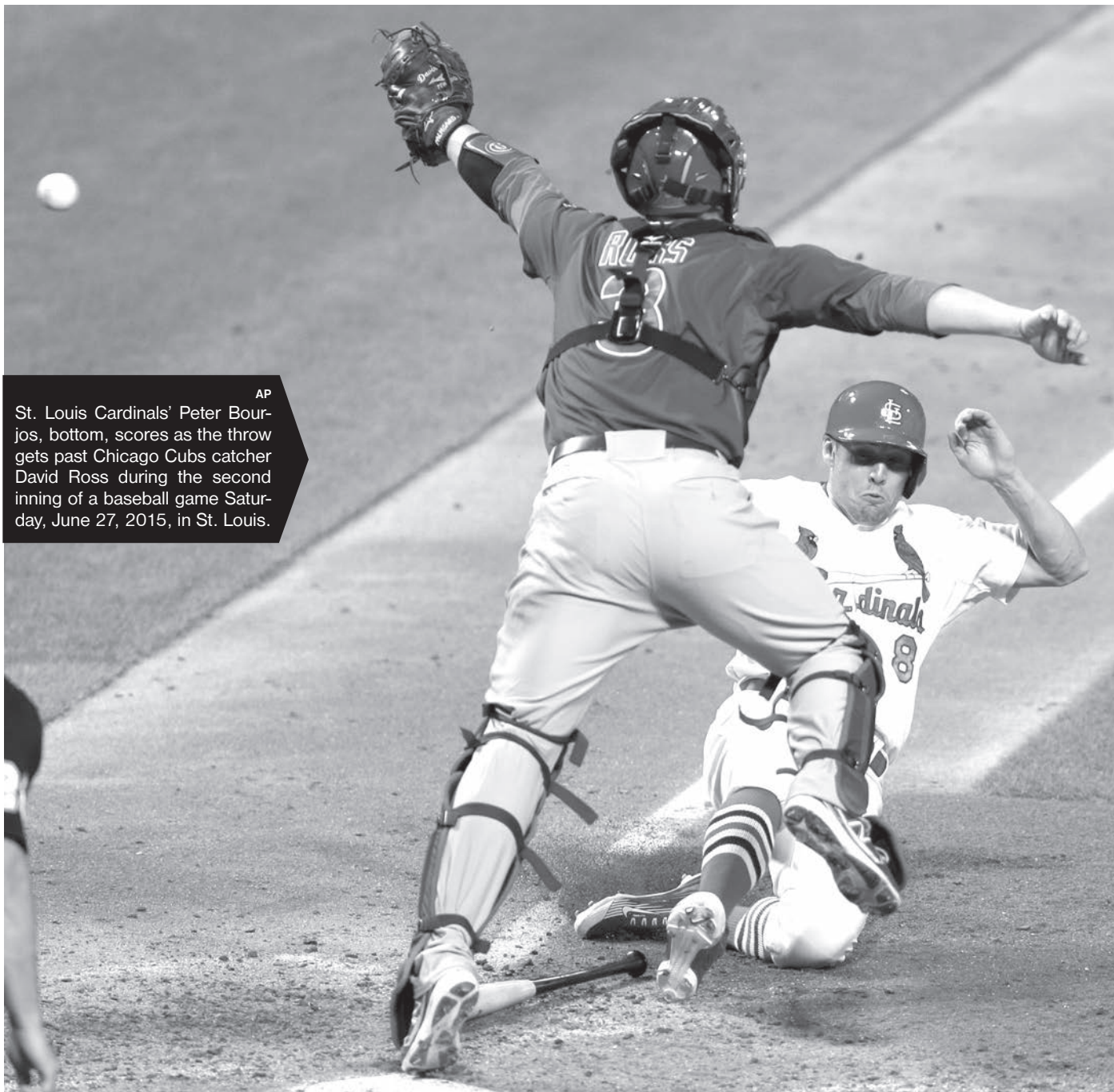
Cubs: OF Jorge Soler, who has been out since June 3 with a left ankle sprain, will likely start a minor league rehabilitation assignment early next week. Soler is on the 15-day disabled list.

Cardinals: LHP Jaime Garcia, who suffered a groin cramp running the bases in his last start, will not take his scheduled turn on Tuesday. He skipped a bullpen session Saturday and could return to the rotation as early as Wednesday. RHP Lance Lynn (5-4, 2.84 ERA) will start Tuesday.

Cardinals RHP Carlos Martinez (8-3, 2.89 ERA) faces RHP Jason Hammel (5-2, 2.65 ERA) in the finale of the three-game series on Sunday night. Hammel has eight quality starts in his last 11 outings. The Cardinals are 11-3 in games started by Martinez this season.

Pirates 8, Braves 4

In Pittsburgh, Julio Teheran wasn't sure where his two-seam



AP
St. Louis Cardinals' Peter Bourjos, bottom, scores as the throw gets past Chicago Cubs catcher David Ross during the second inning of a baseball game Saturday, June 27, 2015, in St. Louis.

fastball was going when he sent one toward Andrew McCutchen in the first inning on Saturday.

When it smacked into the slugger's left elbow, Teheran winced.

"I feel bad that I hit him," Teheran said. "It's part of the game and you don't want that to affect you."

It did. The Pirates ripped off five runs immediately after McCutchen left with a bruised elbow and went on to an 8-4 victory over Teheran and Atlanta. The Braves have dropped a season-high five straight.

"We've got to minimize those innings that are big innings," Braves manager Fredi Gonzalez said. "With Julio that seems to be the thing that gets him every time."

Teheran (5-4) was an All-Star in 2014, but has already surrendered six runs five times this season, including three times in his last seven starts.

McCutchen has become a popular target for opposing pitchers during his rise to stardom. He was tagged by Williams Perez on Friday night. Then he was drilled for the eighth time this season when a 92 mph pitch from Teheran smacked into McCutchen's unprotected elbow. He doubled over in pain for several moments before leaving.

"I was trying to get (inside) and I know you can make a mistake with a hitter like that," Te-

heran said. "I didn't know that my two-seamer was moving that much. It was the first one I threw in the game."

Rangers 4, Blue Jays 0

In Toronto, Yovani Gallardo extended his scoreless streak to a career-high 23 innings by pitching three-hit ball into the ninth, and the Texas Rangers snapped a season-worst six-game skid with a victory over the Toronto Blue Jays.

Mitch Moreland, Robinson Chirinos and Rougned Odor all hit solo home runs for the Rangers, who won for the first time since beating the White Sox on June 19.

Gallardo (7-6) fell two-outs shy of his first shutout and first complete game since 2011. He won his fourth straight decision.

Promoted from Triple-A Buffalo to make his major league debut, Blue Jays left-hander Matt Boyd (0-1) allowed four runs and nine hits, including three homers, in 6 2/3 innings.

Angels 4, Mariners 2

In Anaheim, Seattle Mariners star Robinson Cano was hit in the head by a stray ball while the Angels were warming up in between innings and exited early in Los Angeles' win.

Cano had a sizable welt near his left temple after being struck in the dugout when an errant throw got past Angels first base-

man Albert Pujols before the seventh inning. Cano felt dizzy and was taken to the clubhouse, where the Mariners' medical staff checked the second baseman for a concussion. No signs of one were found.

Garrett Richards (8-5) pitched into the eighth inning, Kole Calhoun hit a two-run homer and third baseman David Freese made a couple of key defensive plays. J.A. Happ (3-5) took the loss.

Yankees 9, Astros 6

In Houston, Brian McCann hit a grand slam and Chris Young homered to give New York an early lead, and Mark Teixeira had a tiebreaking two-run double in the eighth after the Yankees squandered that cushion in a win over Houston.

McCann's slam came in the first. A two-run shot by Young off Brett Oberholtzer put the Yankees up 6-0.

Oberholtzer was ejected with one out in the second inning for throwing at Alex Rodriguez.

Rookie Carlos Correa hit a two-run homer in the fifth and Jose Altuve connected on the next at-bat to tie it up.

Teixeira doubled off Pat Neshek (3-1).

Chasen Shreve (5-1) got the last two outs of the seventh inning for the win.

Marlins 3, Dodgers 2

In Miami, Tom Koehler pitched

seven innings, and Miami beat Clayton Kershaw and the Dodgers in the Marlins' first game since Giancarlo Stanton was sidelined by a hand injury.

Christian Yelich tied a career high with four hits for the Marlins, who snapped a five-game losing streak. Koehler (6-4) allowed two runs and six hits.

Stanton broke his left hand during Friday night's 7-1 loss to Los Angeles. The slugger is expected to miss four to six weeks.

Kershaw (5-6) allowed three runs, one earned, and seven hits in seven innings. The left-hander struck out nine and walked none.

Twins 5, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Torii Hunter homered twice and doubled, Eduardo Escobar hit a three-run homer and the Twins beat the Brewers.

Kyle Gibson (5-6) allowed two runs and six hits in 6 2/3 innings. He had lost a career-worst three straight decisions after starting June with a no-decision in the Twins' 10-5 loss to Milwaukee at Target Field.

Hunter homered in the sixth off Matt Garza (4-10) and in the ninth against Corey Knebel.

Rays 4, Red Sox 1

In St. Petersburg, Matt Andriese and three relievers combined on a three-hitter, Jake Elmore hit a two-run homer and the Rays

beat the Red Sox.

Andriese (3-2) retired his first 11 batters before allowing his lone baserunner, coming on a two-out single in the fourth by Xander Bogaerts. The rookie struck out five in a career-high six innings.

Wade Miley (7-7) gave up two runs, five hits, two walks and struck out eight over 6 1/3 innings for Boston.

After Jake McGee threw a perfect seventh, Kevin Jepsen gave up a solo homer in the eighth to Alejandro De Aza.

Royals 3, Athletics 2

In Oakland, Chris Young bounced back from his worst start of the season to pitch six innings and the Royals beat the Athletics.

Kendrys Morales hit a two-run single in the sixth off Scott Kazmir (4-5) that erased a 2-1 deficit. The Royals won for the fourth time in five games on their road trip.

Young (7-3) allowed four hits and two runs. He walked one and struck out four.

Giants 7, Rockies 5

In San Francisco, Buster Posey drove in two runs, and Andrew Susac had a three-run double in the seventh inning to rally the Giants to a victory over the Rockies.

Matt Duffy added three hits, including a home run, for the Giants, who won three games in a homestand for the first time since sweeping the Los Angeles Dodgers on May 19-21.

Nolan Arenado extended his hitting streak to 14 games with an RBI double for the Rockies, who had won five of six.

George Kontos (2-0) pitched a scoreless seventh for the win. Santiago Casilla pitched the ninth for his 20th save.

Rafael Betancourt (2-3), making his second appearance since being activated from the disabled list, gave up Susac's hit.

Padres 7, Diamondbacks 2

In San Diego, Justin Upton hit a two-run homer and the San Diego Padres beat the Arizona Diamondbacks to get consecutive wins for the first time in three weeks.

Upton connected for his 14th home run on a full-count pitch from Jeremy Hellickson (5-5) to break a 2-all tie in the fifth inning.

Andrew Cashner (3-9) pitched seven solid innings to win for the first time since May 27, a span of six starts. Cashner also drove in a run with a bunt single.

San Diego last won consecutive games during a four-game streak June 2-6. The victory moved San Diego ahead of Arizona into third place in the NL West. The Padres are 5-6 since interim manager Pat Murphy took over after Bud Black was fired.

Same faces rule NMSF fun run

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Jack Stewart and Mamiko Berger remain the runners to beat after they ruled

the inaugural Northern Marianas Sports Foundation 10-kilometer Fun Run last Saturday.

More than 70 runners competed in the race that started and ended at Micro Beach with 35 joining the men's open and 15 in women's divisions.

Stewart, who topped the 22nd Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run on June 13 and finished second to Keith Longuski in the June 8 Run For Nepal, submitted the fastest overall time of 40:34 to clinch the men's open title.

Stewart enjoyed an almost four-minute lead over youth



BERGER

runner Seiya Eda, who will be representing the CNMI in next week's Summer Universiade set from July 3 to July 14 in Gwangju, South Korea.



STEWART

Eda, who also competed in the open men's division, came in after 44:03, while Charlie Sendin was 44 seconds behind at 44:47. The two runners were

also the third and fourth overall finishers.

Berger, who placed second overall behind Stewart, was the top female runner as she finished the 10K course in 43:30.

Claire Devey was more than four minutes behind at second place with a time of 47:57, while Sakiko Eda, Seiya's mother, came in third at 50:46.

Erico Castro led the Under 17 age group winners after submitting a time of 50:40, followed by Joshua Abragan's 53:30, and the 1:09:14 of Sam Ryu.

The race, which had a theme "Healthy Community Leads to a Healthy Economy," is NMSF's fundraising event with proceeds going to NMSA to support CNMI athletes and improve all sports facilities.

Lee wins consolation draw in Fiji

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee ruled the consolation draw in the girls singles division of the South Pacific Open Junior Championships 2015 last Saturday in Fiji.

ships 2015 last weekend in Fiji.

Lee clinched the championship in the consolation bracket after beating fellow Pacific Oceania bet Ayana Rengiil of Palau in the finals, 7-5, 6-2, last Saturday at the Regional

Training Centre in Lautoka. Both Lee and Rengiil dropped to the consolation draw after the former faltered in her first round match in the main draw and the latter was booted out in the second. Lee fell to the



OCEANIA TENNIS

The CNMI's Carol Lee waits for the service of Palau's Ayana Rengiil during their finals game in the consolation draw of the South Pacific Open Junior Championships 2015 last Saturday in Fiji.

JUNIORS

From Page 28

the seventh to set up their amazing finish in the bottom half.

It was Hong Kong's second straight loss after it suffered a 3-24 thrashing from defending champion Chinese-Taipei last Saturday.

SENIOR LEAGUE CNMI 3, Philippines 0

Team CNMI's bullpen held Philippines to one hit in completing the shutout victory and their second in as many games.

Ethan Babauta, Nathan Camacho, Franko Nakamura, and Franklin Lizama alternated on the mound where they combined for five strikeouts and four walks, and forced the Filipino batters to hit grounders and fly balls.

Both teams were coming off

wins over separate opponents with CNMI squeezing out a 5-4 10-inning thriller against Guam and the Philippines cruising to a 15-5 decision over Hong Kong.

BIG LEAGUE CNMI 3, Guam 2

CNMI scored three runs in the bottom of the third then relief pitcher Jose Lizama Jr. held his own against the Guam hitters.

J.J. Lifofoi singled and scored on an RBI single by K.J. Deleon Guerrero, who also reached home on a Jhace Palacios triple.

Michael Concepcion and Daniel Cruz made Guam's runs in the first and fifth innings.

Lizama, who relieved Frankie Lieto in the top of the fifth, shut them down the rest of the game.

Lizama, after giving up a double to Kel Francisco, struck out Guam designated hitter Napu

San Miguel and T.J. Leon Guerrero. Team CNMI's celebration was delayed after Vandrew Naputi got on base on an error by third baseman Khobby Kaipat.

Lizama then sealed the CNMI's win after he forced Kaimana Bamba to an infield fly that Bradley Lieto caught.

Meanwhile, action in the annual tournament that awards World Series berths to the champion teams continues today with Chinese-Taipei taking on Australia at 9am in the Juniors. At 11am, Guam will duel the Philippines in the Senior League match. Guam and the Philippines will also play at 1pm this time in the Juniors, while the CNMI battles Hong Kong at 3pm in another Senior League game. The Big league division matches will be between Guam and Philippines at 5pm and CNMI against Chinese-Taipei at 7pm.



No. 16-ranked Claudia Ng of Hong Kong, 6-0, 6-3, while Rengiil won over Japan's Chisato Hayakawa, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 (6) before bowing to the second-seeded Ayumi Miyamoto, also of Japan, 0-6, 1-6.

In the consolation draw, Lee had to eliminate two foes to set up a finals date with Rengiil. Lee first knocked off Australia's Hannah Matic, 4-0, 4-0, to march into the semifinals against Hong Kong's Avril Look. A 4-2, 4-0 triumph versus the Hong Kong bet gave Lee the finals berth in the lower bracket. Rengiil, on the other hand, recorded victories against Fiji's Ruby Coffin, 4-2, 4-0, and Solomon Island's Georjemah Row, 1-4, 5-4 (8), 11-9, to gain the championship berth in the upper bracket and arrange a title duel against Lee.

In the finals, Lee swept Rengiil, ending the match after one and a half hour—the latter's longest game in the consolation draw. Lee took only 27 minutes to shut down Matic and 45 minutes to oust Look.

SSC

From Page 28

bright future," SSC coach Jacoby Winkfield said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Three more SSC swimmers—Victoria Chentsova, Kento Akimaru, Taiga Sato—gained awards for their notable showing in the last season. Chentsova bagged the "Everything Award" for her success in and out of the pool.

"Victoria was given this award because she has done it all. She trains hard in the pool, mentors her teammates and leads. Outside the pool, she has excelled in academics, she is the consummate scholar athlete. She exemplifies the values of Saipan Swim Club and we are happy to see her dive into the next chapter of her life. She will be a great ambassador for

Iwabuchi lifts Japan to semis with victory over Australia

EDMONTON, Alberta

(AP)—Japanese coach Norio Sasaki couldn't resist making a joke at Mana Iwabuchi's expense when explaining his decision to substitute the forward in during the second half against Australia on Saturday.

Iwabuchi, Sasaki said with a laugh, went from "not yet" to right now.

Some 15 minutes after entering the game, Iwabuchi scored during a scramble in front in the 87th minute to secure a 1-0 victory in the Women's World Cup quarterfinals Saturday.

"Her first name is Mana. And in Japanese, 'Not yet, not yet,' would be 'mada,' so (the words) are very close," Sasaki said through a translator. "And it didn't take her too long as far as she's concerned."

The fourth-ranked Japanese will stay in Edmonton, where they will play England in the semifinals Wednesday. England beat Canada 2-1 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Patience and fresh legs paid off for the defending champions, as their ball-controlling style combined with the 90-degree temperatures gradually wore down the 10th-ranked Australians.

Iwabuchi had nearly scored a minute earlier, but her shot was blocked by Elise Kellond-Knight, which led to a corner kick.

Though Aya Miyama's corner kick was headed out of the penalty area, the ball bounced directly to Rumi Utsugi, who immediately sent it back toward the goal. Azusa Iwashimizu had her shot stopped by Lydia Williams, but the goalkeeper was unable to control the rebound.

The ball squirted to the left, where Iwabuchi knocked it the open side.

"The difficulty was the heat," said Utsugi, who was named player of the match for setting up the goal. "However, throughout the game, the resolve of all

members to keep it up to the end was the challenge. However, we did manage to do that."

Japan is a perfect 5-0 in Canada, and has won eight straight since winning the 2011 tournament in Germany, when it beat the United States 2-2 in penalty kicks in the championship game. The Nadeshiko are now two victories from becoming the second nation to win consecutive tournaments after Germany won in 2003 and '07.

The Matildas go home after making their deepest run in tournament history. The 10th-ranked team won its first elimination game by upsetting seventh-ranked Brazil in the round of 16.

"Obviously disappointed at the result, but when you look at the big scheme of things, we lost 1-0," coach Alen Stajcic said. "It was 1-0 in the 88th minute off a scrappy corner. It's not as if we were humiliated."

They were, however, beaten by a team that showed more composure and patience.

The Matildas exerted too much energy chasing the ball in the first 20 minutes. And when they finally got possession, the Australians too often gave the ball right back to Japan.

"Certainly (the Japanese) were a lot more composed throughout the 90 minutes," Stajcic said. "It's a heart-breaking experience for all of us. But sometimes you learn the most from these experiences."

Japan has gone 4-0-1 in its past five meetings against its Asian regional rival, and is 8-1-1 in its past 10 games.

The Australians did a better job than Japan's previous tournament opponents in bottling up the middle and pressuring the ball carrier to disrupt the Nadeshiko's crisp, short-passing style.

But the Japanese attack finally wore down Australia in the second half.



CNMI Team at North Pacific Regional Championships

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



CNMI Team coach Jeff Race poses with his players who earned slots to the North Pacific Team after making the grade in the North Pacific Regional Championships held this month in Guam.



The CNMI Team players and coach Jeff Race pose for a photo after a successful stint in the annual tournament.



CNMI coach Jeff Race huddles with his players during a practice session.



Girls U14 doubles runners-up Mimi Sakano, left, and Asia Raulerson, right, smile for the camera.



Boys U14 doubles runners-up Vincent Tudela, left, and Steven Goodwin pose for a photo during the awards ceremony.



Boys U14 singles runner-up Ken Song, left, poses with champion Robbie Schorr.



The Kaga siblings, champion Conatsu, left, and Coume, pose with their girls U12 singles medals.



Maria Gregoire, left, and Ericka Tuttle are all smiles after winning the silver medal in the girls U12 doubles.



Girls singles U14 champion Tania Tan, center, and runner-up Malika Miyawaki pose with their medals.



Singles U16 champion Isabel Heras is all smiles after receiving her medal from ITF Development Officer for the Pacific Oceania region Darran Wrighton.



Tindin's walk-off lifts CNMI Juniors



JON PEREZ
The CNMI Junior All-Stars celebrate their walk-off win against Hong Kong yesterday in the 2015 Junior, Senior, and Big League Baseball Regional Tournament at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

It was only the CNMI Junior League team's second game, but it was like a finals atmosphere as the home team did not disappoint their families and fans that cheered for them non-stop.

Tindin Leon Guerrero had a walk-off hit to lift Team CNMI to a 10-9 win over Hong Kong in the Junior League division of the 2015 Asia Pacific Junior, Senior, and Big League Baseball Regional Tournament yesterday at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

It was the home team's second win after pummeling Guam, 15-1, last Saturday.

The CNMI players used a seven-run third inning to beat their Southern

neighbors.

It was also the third nail-biting game for the hosts, as the Seniors squad needed 10 innings before beating Guam, while its Big League division team also had to squeeze past their Southern neighbors in separate matches.

The home team trailed against Hong Kong in their Junior League game as the visitors opened with a 6-0 lead after 1 1/2 innings. The CNMI Junior leaguers were still down, 7-9, entering the

bottom of the seventh and Hong Kong needing only three outs to complete the win.

The wards of manager Manny Evangelista, and coaches Bernard Cabrera and Thomas Guerrero, however, won't go down that easily.

Henry Aguon had a leadoff triple and scored on a Kimo Angailen forced play for the first out to make it 8-9. Angailen grounded out to Hong Kong first baseman Bryan Tan, while Aguon ran towards home.

Hong Kong then made a pitching change with manager Thomas Hill and coach Robert Drapeau choosing to have Jay Fong closed out the game.

CNMI's comeback was nearly put to waste as Leo Salalila, with a 1-1 count, took Fong's third pitch to left where



Bryan Lee caught the high fly ball for out number two.

Tyrese Camacho doubled to left and Neldreyton Skerei had a single to keep the CNMI's comeback hopes alive.

Leon Guerrero—with two outs and runners on base—gifted Team CNMI the win after taking Fong's fourth pitch to deep left field to bring in Camacho and Skerei, who scored the game-winning run.

Hong Kong scored six runs in the top of the first with Jay Fong, Ian Lo, Anthony Fong, Jonathan Drapeau, Shu Furukawa, Arnold, and Yoki Tomiyama getting on base on a hit, walk or hit by pitch.

Drapeau, after Hong Kong loaded up the bases against CNMI starter Jayden Tenorio, was hit by pitch to score one run with Furukawa bringing in two more on a two-RBI single. It took the CNMI almost 40 minutes to get three outs in the first inning.

Team CNMI was still trailing, 4-9, in the bottom of the fifth when Angailen, with runners at the corner and one out, had a two-RBI triple.

Salalila made it 7-9 with an RBI single as he took Furukawa's fourth throw to the gap between shortstop and left field to bring in Angailen.

Hong Kong managed to preserve the lead after Furukawa forced Cabrera to ground out to first and only needed three pitches in retiring Skerei, who struck out swinging.

Neither team scored after that with Angailen, who closed out for Team CNMI, preventing Hong Kong from getting any insurance runs in the top of



JON PEREZ

CNMI Big League pitcher Jose Lizama Jr., right, covers the base as Guam pinch-runner Jude Santos slides home in an attempt to score in their game last Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

SSC recognizes outstanding swimmers

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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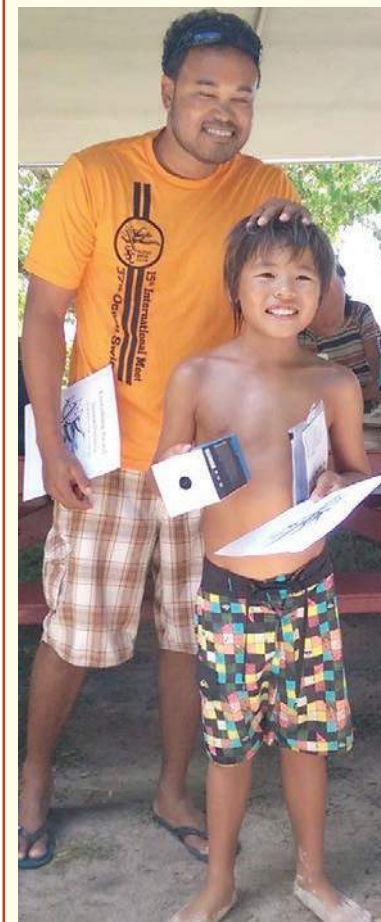


Saipan Swim Club commended the outstanding swimmers of the 2014-2015 season during a brief awards ceremony held on June 20 at Pau Pau Beach.

Jinnosuke Suzuki led the list of awardees, as the nine-year-old was named Swimmer of the Year. Jinnosuke capped an impressive season with a first place finish in the Palau Invitational early this month and another first place victory in the 3K course of the Palau Pacific Ocean Swim. In March, he got the second high-point award in the Saipan International Invitational Swim Meet, beating swimmers from Guam and the Marshall Islands.

"Jinnosuke had an amazing year in the pool and in spite of his success he remains humble and hard-working. Jinnosuke is a trainer and racer. He is a beast and has a very

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Saipan Swim Club Swimmer of the Year Jinnosuke Suzuki is all smiles after receiving his awards from SSC coach Jacoby Winkfield.

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